

IACA World General Meeting

August, 2011

Kaløvig Sailing Center

AGENDA

Welcome

1. President Report
2. Secretary Report
3. Economic Report and presentation of accounts and budget – Allocation of IACA funds
4. Membership Fees
5. National Association and Fleet Reports¹
6. Election of I.A.C.A. President, Secretary and Committee Members
7. Selection of venues for 2013 Euros
8. Proposals, received by the Secretary from National Associations, ISAF or other institutions.
9. Regulatory and Technical Affairs (Alterations in the I.A.C.A. Constitution, Championship Rules, Ballots etc.)
 - a. Championship rules (attached will follow ASAP)
 - b. Measurement issues (see attached)
10. Various

¹ Each National Association will be represented at the WGM by its President or President delegate as notified to I.A.C.A. in writing

IACA World General Meeting

Aarhus, Denmark, 16th August, 2011

Meeting opened at 17:30 by President, Stefano Sirri.

Present: Stefano Sirri (ITA - President), Pieter Saarberg (NED - Secretary), Andrew Landenberger (AUS), Murray Philpott (NZL), Alex Seiler (SUI), Ben Hall (USA), Georg Reutter (GER), Arno Terra (NED), Thomas Paasch (DEN), Marco Gaeti (ITA), Jean Louis le Coq (FRA), Jacek Noetzel (POL), Yvonne Sheenan (IRL),

Not present : ESP, GBR, SW, AUT, FIN.

No delegation recorded from other National Associations

1. Presidents report.

Stefano welcomes all to the meeting.

The winter period has not been very busy this year.

All matters with ISAF have been solved and there are no pending situations.

There has been only an active IACA commission, and the group leader, Arno Terra, will explain later the results of their work.

The class currently has strong numbers with many boats changing hands and people joining from other classes. Particular the America's Cup with the AC 45 formula has been a very important "sponsor" for A Class and guys coming from AC joined A Class.

Moreover media coverage during the summer will probably attract many people to the most similar and affordable boat (A Class of course)

There are no big news about multihulls for the next Olympics, and it's quite difficult to have an open discussion with ISAF about this matter.

The organisation of the Worlds has been demanding for the Club but now we can count the maximum numbers of competitors as at our last 3 Worlds. Probably nobody expected 100 boats here in Denmark, but the Organising Committee, with a little support from IACA, did a great job. The lack of communication recorded last year in Italy has been swept away by a very strong presence on the web, on social network and on the stream TV. We should think about it for the future.

The 2012 will see the European Championship organised by Switzerland on the lake of Garda, end of June and the Worlds organised by the United States in Florida, mid November and it's already time to start planning all activities.

2. Secretarys Report.

The numbers of IACA members have been slowly increasing. At present there are 942 financial members of IACA. In this number we are missing a few as the very small number of a few countries are not counted as they were paying the fee in cash. The reason being the bank cost of a transfer. This will be updated later. A new Nationality this year is Finland. We hope to get more A-class sailors there joining the A-class.

We received a report on the A-class Measurement Certificate from Australia which will be dealt with later. An application for the EC 2013 has been received from Spain and France. The situation with ISAF remains unchanged.

3. Presentation of accounts and budget – Allocation of IACA funds.

We have received the IACA fee from a bigger number before the 31st of December 2010. This is the date where all countries should pay. Not paying in time will have an effect on the allocation for the major event in next year. There are 2 events planned in 2011, The WC in the USA and the European Championship in Italy, lake Garda, organised by the Swiss organisation.

The reserve situation at 08-07-2011 was € 40.949,45.

We have received a request for the financial assistance for the transport of the boats from the USA, which will be calculated and paid later. € 2000,00 will be transferred to the WC organisation of the present WC in Denmark. This is the amount as help according to the decision taken at the WGM in Italy 2010.

At the meeting several other countries asked for the transport assistance during the meeting and it was agreed that this also would be taken into account, after the reception of the cost. The budget proposed by Dieter Melcher has been approved by the meeting.

4. Membership Fees.

A discussion was held on membership fees. It was agreed to leave at €4 per member.

5. National Fleet Reports.

Due to time constraints at meeting these reports were by-passed and National reps asked to submit report for minutes. Thank you to those who responded.

AUS – Australian A cat sailing has never been stronger. We have had excellent results in the past two World championships and attained a record (non Worlds) Australian championship entry of 74 sailors last season. This event had great publicity and was watched World wide by catamaran sailors in general. Having Glenn Ashby competing in the AC circuit has helped attract a number of big named sailors and it was very pleasing to finally have Darren Bundock compete with us. He is expected to be competing in this year's nationals along with Olympic sailors Nathan Outeridge and Tom Slingsby. The AC guys are also expected.

Most sailors in the top of the fleet are now using curved boards and getting used to the (often unexpected) thrill of flying.

NZL -. Currently the NZADCA has 36 financial members.

Membership has remained stable over the last couple of seasons.

There is increased interest in the class, particularly in Auckland, due to exposure from Americas cup teams training in A-class. There have also been some high profile people from these teams joining the association and a number of new boats have come into the country as a result.

We continue to distinguish ourselves by being probably the only country in the world where the majority of boats are still home built. There are currently at least 3 new boats being built by members of varying designs.

We are looking forward to hosting the worlds at Takapuna, Jan 2014

GBR –

ITA – At the moment we have 150 financial members, and totally in national regattas we can count 86 sailor in our Ranking List.

- We have divided the races in 2 different kind: regional and national regattas, and only who participate in national are included in the Ranking List. Regional championship must be done before or after national races period. We have did that to improve the number of sailor and members, and give the opportunity to do a race not only in the summer period. Results are excellent in many region, like Sicily, Lazio, Toscana, Emila Romagna and in the north lake region (Iseo Lake, Maggiore Lake and Garda Lake).

- Even if 2011 is the year after the WC in Cesenatico, we have had more or less 30 sailors in each race. It means that we have done a good job on the territory.

- We have put a lot of attention in the measurement rules: usually we ask to the sailing club to have an A Cat Measurer in each race, to check boats and sails, and our Association give to the sailing club euro 200.00 as a fixed reimbursement of expenses. Results are excellent, because now, everybody respect rules and have measurement certificates for boats and sails.

- Actually we don't have so many young members and to increase the number, the Association don't ask to junior guys (under 25) members fee and if they want go to a World or European Championship the Association will pay for them the entry fee (euro 200.00 for each).

- In Italy there are a lot of different kind of boats came from Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands and the same thing for masts and sails. Many sailors use curved boards and many other use straight boards, but we don't understand which are the best, because there are many different condition who can influence boat performances.

That is it from A Cat Italy

IRL –

AUT –

SUI – During its annual meeting at the beginning of this year, the SACA has decided to abandon its Swiss Ranking, due to lack of interest in participation and low-visibility. At the same time, we have enlarged our sailing area with regattas in the vicinity of Switzerland like Lake of Constance, Maccagno and South of France. These regattas often see challenging participations of more than 30 boats.

The number of Swiss A-Cat fleet members is stable, with a few new members coming in and some other disappearing from the field. Many of our best sailors have updated their equipment in the last 12 months; the fleet has an interesting diversity in boats and rigs. Our national boat builder Andy Scheurer is still going strong with his “G” platform, but is probably impacted by the high exchange value of the Swiss Franc.

We will have our “Swiss Nationals” mid-September in Morges, Lake of Geneva. We have already invited sailors from nearby federations to participate. Morges is a very nice place, easy to reach. Beside A-Cats, this race will see foiling Moths, 18HT and an open multihull class, all racing at the same time. We therefore expect a big sailing fest on our shores and once again invite you all to participate to this event on September 17th to 19th.

Along with its hosting club Circolo Vela Arco, the SACA is preparing the Euro 2012. Everyone knows the famous wind conditions of the Lake of Garda, and we expect a fierce competition to qualify for this event.

FRA – This year we are 80 Financial AFCCA members and we are 70 sailors who have participated at least one regatta on our national regatta calendar. During our national championship we were 70 competitors , 50 french and 20 foreigners from GER, GBR, ITA,SUI, ESP , BEL. Last year we were 50 in Sanguinet In France the A class has attracted some famous international sailors sailing mainly today on America Cup (AC45) like Bruno and Loic Peyron (Energy team) , Philippe Presti and Thomas Gaveriaux (Oracle team) and recently Bertand Pacé (Aleph team) From 3-4 year the A-class in slightly progression and it is one of most important catamaran series in number of competitors after the F18 , HC16 and Dart 18 series and the FFV(National Sail French Federation) tries us to recovery on their national federal championship. The french catamaran serie , particulary inter-serie catamaran, declines from years whereas F18 and A Class progress. This A class success is probably attributed to the attractive performance and evolution of the A-Cat and in France certainly thanks to at an important second hand boats market that proposes competitive boats less 10 000 €. We think that today the A-Cat platform, sail and mast are too expensive (mainly new design from SUI,NED,SWE and GER more 22 000 €) and that is incompatible with real world financial crisis. Fortunately there is an Italian builder who produces competitive A Cats in consequent number and cheaper and permits at our association to progress from many years. From our point of view, the race to build expensive boats helps to create an elite of competitor (semi or entire professionals who have a lot of time and money to sail on A Cat) and this is why we are favourable to change the modalities of organizing international championship like for example gold and silver fleets and more 100 competitors on european / mondial events. This way will be better and more attractive for the 800 financial IACA members. A class is fabulous and must it to live on

GER – We are round about 130 a class sailors, a steady fleet over the years. With Bob Baier as European Champion and French Champion 2011 we have one of the most succesful sailors in europe. There are some other excellent Sailors like Helmuth Stumhofer, Italian Champion 2011 and Matthias Dietz, Great Grand Master Worlds 2010, too. We hope to get more boats on the race course in future and we are looking for ideas to "push" younger sailors into a-class.

ESP –

NED –

DEN – The fleet in Denmark is still evolving. Some sailors have dropped out, whilst others have joined the fleet. More than 2/3 of our members are active in regattas in Denmark, Germany and Sweden.

A lot of work has gone into planing of the 2011 worlds, and we are very happy so many sailors joined the event.

BEL – Situation in Belgium remains difficult for the development of the A-class, mainly due to the fact we only have the NorthSea to sail on of which the conditions are different than on a lake. As the Belgian regattas A-class cats can participate in are always in handicap races, the A-class has it very hard to 'prove' itself due to the disadvantageous SCHRS rating compared to boats carrying a spi. Moreover, the price of a new A-cat is about the same (or more) than a F18 so one must be very motivated to change class.

It is said that the most recent A-cats have improved a lot on downwind courses (hence deserving a bit more their difficult rating) but only next year do we expect to see the first curved board A-cat to show up in Belgian regattas (mine :-))The number of active members in our class is about five for a couple of years now and no improvement expected for next year though quite a few people tried already and are systematically very impressed.

BRA – We are now on the 22th boat, distributed in four states in Brazil.

4 - Rio de Janeiro,

1 - Brasilia,

5 – Bahia

12- São Paulo, 2 in Ilhabela and 10 in Grarapiranga lake.

This last year we had an increase of three boats to our fleet hosted in the Guarapiranga lake. The new boats are Flyer type from Germany. The older ones are Sambacat (a Brazilian boat with Hall Spars Mast).

I Guess all sailors are increasing their sailing skills. We have 7 active boats making contests once monthly on Saturdays and Sundays.

One boat has just moved from Rio to Brasilia (Brazilian Capital) and the boat is making very good show around there.

We have also made some boats since the class begins in Brazil and now we are making the MAXX Boat here in Rio de Janeiro.

In March 5th to 8th 2011 we organized the Brazilian A-Class Championship at the Clube de campo de São Paulo which had competitors from São Paulo-Guarapiranga, São Paulo-Ilhabela and from Rio de Janeiro. Now we are preparing a State of São Paulo Championship, 12th to 15th November 2011. The next Brazilian championship will be in Niterói (Rio de Janeiro) 18th to 21st February.

6. Election of I.A.C.A. President, Secretary and Committee Members.

Stefano informs all presents that President and Secretary offices are at the end of the 4-years term and ask all if there are some candidates.

After a short discussion all in favour for a new office of **Stefano Sirri** as IACA President. Stefano thanks everybody but informs the delegates that he has been in charge since 2005 and that it would probably be better to have a new President before 2015, so he accept until the WGM 2013 in New Zealand

Pieter Saarberg is proposed as Secretary. All in favour

For the IACA Commitee Stefano nominates **Ben Hall (USA)**, **Murray Philpot (NZL)** and **Yves Theuinck (SUI)**. All in favour

7. Selection of venues for 2013 Euros

2013 Europeans – Proposals from ESP, FRA.

FRA: Proposed for Port Camargue. Located near Montpellier in the middle of the Camargue region. Nice sailing condition with sea breeze. Same Club of the last French Nat. with 69 boats.

ESP: : Proposed for “Barcelona International Sailing Center”, a new training center that will offer all the facilities & technology to sailors & athletes. Good facilities in town and all opportunity for flights, transport, containers. Period between June and July

Considering that both proposal has not been evaluated by all National Associations, has been decided to postpone the voting and to collect e-mail votes within mid-october.

Note : After the meeting France drop out its proposal, so Spain is the only one left. 2013 European Championship will be in Barcelona, Spain

8. Proposals, received by the Secretary from National Associations, ISAF or other institutions.

Proposal from Switzerland

Financial IACA Contribution to Major Events

See Secretary Report

Championship Rules

Limits of wind conditions (C.R. Art. 10 c)

According to the WGM protocol the change of the wind limits will be treated at the next WGM 2011.

The SACA is for maintaining the minimal wind force of 4 knots, but also in the same consideration to leave the maximum limit with 22 knots unchanged, always during the measured period of 15 minutes before starting or stopping the race.

The important thing after all is however that the Race Committee applies the rules and if they should not react the Jury has to interfere!

To be discussed inside the technical committee

3.4 Liability Assurance (C.R. Art. 15 a)

The SACA requires again that at the registration at a Major Event the insurance policies respectively the certificates of the participants must be very carefully controlled in order to be sure that the required insurance coverage by the NOR is guaranteed, this without any exclusion for racing events!

At the 2010 worlds in Italy it was offered to buy an insurance coverage if the own policy was insufficient. This very positive example should be followed in future.

IACA will ask all Organizing Committee to work with local Insurance Companies to offer an "on site coverage"

9. Regulatory and Technical Affairs (Alterations in the I.A.C.A. Constitution, Championship Rules, Ballots etc.)

A. Championship rules (attached will follow ASAP)

The Meeting starts discussing the proposal of the group that worked on the new Championship Rules (attached).

There are two main points.

First one is whether to increase the number of sailors to Worlds and Continental Championship or not. After a deep and complete discussion, the President asks all delegates to vote. Italy and Switzerland against, all other N.A. in favour. Approved the new number of 180 sailors.

Second one is the selection mode and the format. Since there is no clear solution, the Meeting asks the group to present a proposal to be voted by e-mail within December 2011. Until the format has not been approved races will go on with the present format.

For the already assigned events, 2012 and 2013 Worlds, 2012 Euro, all in favour to let the organizing committee to decide whether to adopt the new format or not. IACA will ask officialy the US, Swiss and New Zealand National Associations about this subject.

Since we are dealing with an alteration to Championship Rules point 3 a) according to IACA Consitution point 12 a majority of 2/3 of votes is required. Anyway a "test" on the new rule is recommendable and a trial period should give evidence of a correct choice. The Meeting agrees to wait until December 2011, then to vote on the new proposal by simple majority and finally to vote according IACA Consitution during the 2013 WGM

B. Measurement issues (see attached)

There are some measurement issues to be discussed (i.e. black band, how to measure new boats like MyFly, GPS, etc). The meeting decides to appoint a technical committee led by Greame Harbour (AUS) with members Carla Schieffer (USA), Andrew Landenberger (AUS) Attached a note from Int. Measurer Carla Schiefer

10. Various

The Meeting recommends the IACA Committee to keep in touch with ISAF in order to reduce costs of Jury. For an Organising Committee Jury and Race Committee are an important part of the whole budget, so it would be necessary to control such a cost. A solution may be a possible reduction of the number of Race Officers.

Media coverage : The Meeting asks Mr. Landenberger to keep in touch with the Star fleet freelance for media coverage. A group has to work on it, and members are Andrew Landenberger (AUS), Ben Moon (USA) and Arno Terra (NED)

Meeting closed : 19:00

World Championship report: Aarhus, Denmark.

Entries: 96

Nations: 16

Continents: 3

World Champion	Steven Brewin (AUS)
Junior Champion	Jack Benson (AUS)
Masters Champion	Bob Baier (GER)
Grand Masters Champion	Gustavo Doreste (ESP)
Great Grand Masters Champion	Scott Anderson (AUS)
Ladies Champion	Nicole Salzmann (AUT)

Stefano Sirri
IACA President

Pieter Saarberg
IACA Secretary