

Final Report of ICA Development Committee

May 1st 2001

Ladies and Gentlemen

Last July I was asked to chair a committee to develop the idea of an ICA to run the affairs of the IOM class, by far the most numerically popular class of RC yachts in the ISAF-RSD classes. The task and mandate of the committee was published on the RSD WEBSITE and circulated to a number of other persons and in summary was as follows.

A Working Committee was needed to report back in one year's time to the World Champs in Croatia with:

- 1) a draft constitution for an International Class Association (ICA)
- 2) any rules, regulations, procedures, or structures for such an ICA as it sees fit.

It was thought likely that the ICA would comprise:

- 1) a World Council involving a representative from each National CA
- 2) an Executive Committee.

Development Committee members

Initial members included Heinz Bohn, Laurent Chapelot, Marco Di Guiseppe, Allan Gardner, Chris Jackson, John Rizopoulos, Anders Wallin, Mikel Zatarain.

Others who added their input included Ken Dobbie, Allan Hayes, Paul Simmonds, Anthony De Bono.

Summary of Initial Proceedings

The committee started by taking up a copy of the Int 49 Class constitution which is known to be drafted in a format acceptable to ISAF, and cutting out references not applicable to Radio Yachts.

A Draft was sent out to all members in mid September for study in detail. Three key questions were considered relating to:

- *Did the Draft cover all aspects which the ICA wished to control.
- *Did the members foresee any conflict with RSD on any points.
- *Did the members foresee any conflicts with their home country National Authority.

All the members who responded confirmed they were happy with the broad coverage of the Constitution and did not foresee any conflicts with either DMs or RSD.

Start Procedure for the ICA

Members were then asked to consider the timetable for starting the ICA and the following was agreed:

Present report and Constitution to a meeting in Croatia.

Open ICA membership from June 1 with 'appointed' Officers for six months.

Officers to offer themselves for election as from January 1st 2002 for a two year period.

The question of the need to have the complexity of NCA's or merely National Class Secretaries was raised and it was agreed that National Authorities would have the option of appointing a single National IOM Class Secretary and only an NCA if that country's skippers wished to have a more formal group.

Low Budget Operation

An important aspect of the working of the new ICA will have to be the reduction to a minimum of travel expenditure by Council members as the income which can be expected even on the most optimistic forecast

of potential membership will not produce a great deal of funds. This factor has led to the expected use of the Internet Email Group for Executive Committee discussion and also for contact with ICA members both via the NCA (or NCS) or direct via the on line 'discussion forum'. This will place ICA members without Internet connection at some disadvantage, but is unavoidable unless funds are put into a paper magazine.

RSD Contact

The RSD discussed this development at their January 2001 meeting and appointed David Coode, Organisation and Policy Committee, to work with the ICA Development committee to consider the effect of the ICA and how it might relate to the RSD, especially in regard to custody of the IOM Class Rules.

David Coode made a number of useful comments which have been addressed in the final draft Constitution and has also made contact with John Rizopoulos and Rob Davis.

Volunteer Officers

A Press Release was circulated at the end of December, posted to the RSD site and other addresses, which asked for names of potential officers for the ICA.

By mid February there had been nil response so a Questionnaire was sent to all committee members asking them if they would wish to stand, and also if they know of others willing to do so. This produced the list of officers as follows:

John Rizopoulos,	President
Roberto Valle	Vice President Europe
Don Martin	Vice President Americas
Rob Davis	Hon Secretary
Marco di Guiseppe	Hon Treasurer

Is our ICA proposal better than the present RSD set-up?

We believe it is, mainly because:

- * The ICA will know at any moment the names and locations of ALL skippers/owners who have declared a special interest in the top level of racing, and rules observance.
- * On the 1st January each year the national NCA/NCS will send a list of all members to the ICA Secretary, and they will be logged in as members.
- * The ICA Council will have direct electronic contact with the NCS in each country and they in turn will have local contact with all their skippers.
- * An active and accessible 'discussion forum' facility into which all IOM skippers can dip, but with messages only from accredited ICA member skippers, should offer a permanently available information facility with direct contact by ALL owners with Internet connections.
- * The World Council will be able to ballot all members on any matters by electronic means, and will be bound by the majority vote expressed in reply.

Answering Questions

I will be happy to answer any questions on the details of the Constitution which is being introduced at the Croatia Meeting, and to that end have released it prior to that date so people can read it in advance.

I am now handing over!!!

I am bowing out at this stage, after presenting the Constitution and list of Officers to the meeting at the IOM Class World championships in Croatia.

There is of course much work to be done, and I am happy to leave this to the persons who have come forward recently to give their time to running this ICA.

I hope you will support this venture into a new form of governance for RC yacht classes.

Chris Jackson
Chairman ICA Development Committee.