

## PRESS RELEASE

The ISAF-RSD recognises IOMICA as the IOM class association  
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The International One Metre class was established in 1988 by the IMYRU, now the ISAF Radio Sailing Division, with the intention of creating a relatively inexpensive international class of radio controlled racing yacht, capable of being built by a non-expert without being at a performance disadvantage. Some 15 years later, the class has clearly demonstrated remarkable success, being the most popular of the internationally sailed radio yachts with an estimated 15,000 owners worldwide.

The ISAF-RSD first announced its wish to encourage the formation of an IOM class association at the 1999 IOM World Championship in Malta. The formation of an IOM CA was initiated following a meeting at the IOM European Championship at St Cyr in 2000, under a group headed by Chris Jackson. A constitutional structure was developed and this group reported back to the 2001 IOM World Championship in Omisalj. An interim committee took the work of Chris' group forward under the chairmanship of Lester Gilbert and with the continuing support of the ISAF-RSD, resulting in the Constitution and Regulations of IOMICA. After a period of consultation with and comment from RSD Division Members, the ISAF-RSD proposed a draft Agreement to the IOMICA interim committee. An inaugural IOMICA Executive Committee was voted into office at the 2003 IOM World Championship in Vancouver with a brief to finalise the Agreement with the ISAF-RSD.

The ISAF-RSD and IOMICA now jointly announce the signing of an Agreement where the ISAF-RSD recognises IOMICA as the IOM class association. Following the Agreement, IOMICA is fully responsible for the approval of IOM international events and for proposals for changes to the IOM class rules. In consultation with IOMICA, the ISAF-RSD approves IOM class rule changes and issues IOM class rule interpretations.

IOMICA operates entirely through the Internet, and is the first recognised international sailing class to do so. IOMICA is directed by its World Council, which comprises a representative from every country that has a recognised IOM National Class Association (NCA). IOM NCA representatives vote on class rule and constitutional proposals in the World Council according to the result of the ballot of their owners. The Executive Committee, appointed by the World Council, manages the day-to-day activities of IOMICA.

The text of the Agreement can be found on the ISAF-RSD Web site at <http://www.radiosailing.org/> and on the IOMICA Web site at <http://www.iomclass.org/>. Further information may be obtained from the ISAF-RSD Secretary, Keith Skipper, [keith@whirlwindwinches.co.uk](mailto:keith@whirlwindwinches.co.uk), or the IOMICA Secretary, Marko Majic, [marko@factavera.com](mailto:marko@factavera.com).