

## RO Europe and Marblehead Class Committee, 2016

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Thanks to the support of several NCA that voted me once again as RO Europe and thanks to the IRSA Executive Committee that re-elected me as Marblehead Class Committee Chairman, I had the opportunity to give continuity to the job started before.

Radio Sailing activity seems to catch more attention than in the past and new European members joined IRSA, as Russia and Ukraine, and Hungary has shown interest to become member in the coming future.

I feel a growing enthusiasm and will to share experience and to built up new relationships between different counties: more international events have been scheduled into national calendars and numbers of skippers present to these events were significantly increased than in the past. Also most popular National Championships gained in attendances.

By far, combined World Championships in Limone sul Garda was the most important event of the season: more than 100 skippers from 15 countries were present to demonstrate the well health of Marblehead Class and the return in life of the 10rater class. New fresh blood for these two classes comes by the large support inside the community, the good media coverage and by the number of new design shown during the event.

WCs gave also the opportunity to test, try and validate the new Class Rules recently approved by IRSA: everything run fluently.

Late in the year IRSA has approved the German bid to host combined World Championships in Biblis in 2018. Another good opportunity to rise the interest for radio sailing and to show European effort to support the sport.

A rising interest shown during the WC for a development of an International Class Association pushed me to ask for a democratically vote by every

Marblehead class boat owner. While writing this report I'm receiving answers and offers for volunteering. Next year report will bring more details about this matter.

As every year, lot has been done but more has to be done.

*Matteo Longhi*

RO Europe

Marblehead Class Committee Chairman