



International Radio Sailing Association

www.radiosailing.org



General Assembly 2014

Racing Rules Chairman's report

Firstly, congratulations to Brad Gibson on winning the RM Worlds in 2012 and Rob Walsh on winning the IOM Worlds in 2013.

It is just a couple of months to the Marblehead Worlds in the Netherlands. Preparations are well underway and lessons learned from previous championships, both IOM and Marblehead, are being incorporated where possible.

The 2015 IOM Worlds in San Francisco will provide a welcome change to recent trends of major IRSA events being held in and around Europe.

If we are to really consider ourselves an International organisation greater effort must be made to spread the championships around more or less in proportion to the class populations. Unfortunately currently that comes at a financial cost to organisers who do not have the luxury of several near neighbours from whom they can source an International Jury and Umpires.

Many full size sailing classes operate a pool system for transportation of officials. This helps spread the costs from one event to the next and allows potential hosts to consider applying when otherwise it would be out of the question. If such a system were to be considered practical for Radio Sailing it could only be implemented if all classes at both World and Continental Championships participated, another reason why IRSA must continue to operate as the Radio Sailing organisation and not be subject to fragmentation by class centric ideology.

While it is desirable to have the bulk of umpires at any event being experienced Radio Sailing umpires, geographical restrictions and the cost of transportation put a practical limit of how often this can be achieved. Consistency of umpiring is an issue that needs to be addressed and to this end IRSA is establishing an umpire pool. This pool will be of umpires who have expressed and preferably demonstrated an interest in Radio Sailing with the aim of having umpires from as many regions as possible.

Before being included in the pool, umpires will need to agree to operate within guidelines setting out the different aspects of successful officiating in radio sailing. These guidelines will include how to work with and recognise the importance of Observers. The guidelines are near completion and have been prepared by umpires who are active Radio Sailing umpires and with input from various other sources. This will not happen overnight but once numbers have been built up it is envisaged that the majority of Jury and Umpires at major events will be from this pool with the jury head always being from the pool.

The first two members of this pool are Peter Johnson (GBR) and Gordon Davies (IRL) and they will be responsible for nominating candidates from their peers.

Roy Granich (NZL)

Chairman Racing Rules Committee

21st April 2014