

IRSA Report to ISAF 2014

2014-10-21

Lester Gilbert

Chairman, Executive Committee, International Radio Sailing Association

<http://www.rudiosailing.org>

chairman@radiosailing.org

Radio Sailing within ISAF

The International Radio Sailing Association (IRSA) is an Affiliate Member of ISAF, with a membership of 31 countries from 5 continents. It is the International class authority for the Radio Marblehead, Radio Ten Rater, and Radio "A" Classes, and has devolved administration of the IOM Class to the International One Metre International Class Association (IOMICA).

Radio sailing is an excellent way to enjoy the sport, and is an ideal way for sailors at all levels to quickly develop knowledge and understanding of tactics, racing rules, and boat setup. It is also an excellent way for sailing officers to develop umpiring, judging, and race management skills. IRSA seeks to develop radio sailing worldwide, particularly in those countries who are not national members.

Events 2014

The 2014 Radio Marblehead World Championship was held at Gouda in the Netherlands from July 5th to 11th. Brad Gibson retained his RM World Champion title in a fleet of 69 boats from 13 countries and 3 continents. More details on the event website <http://www.rmworlds2014.com/>.

The 2014 IOM European Championship was held at Lake Garda in Italy from September 27th to October 3rd. Brad Gibson retained his IOM Euro Championship title in a fleet of 76 boats from 18 countries and 3 continents. More details on the event website <http://www.iomec2014italy.com/>.

Scheduled Events 2015

The 2015 IOM World Championship will be held in Foster City, California, USA, from May 8th to 16th 2015. More details can be found on the event website <http://www.usaiomworlds.com/>.

Interpretations, Class Rule Changes

Interpretations M-1-2014, M-2-2014, M-3-2014, and M-4-2014 were issued in June for the Radio Marblehead Class.

Interpretations 2014-IOM-1, 2014-IOM-2, and 2014-IOM-3 were approved for the IOM Class for issue by IOMICA.

IOM Class Rule changes August 2014 and September 2014 were approved for the IOM Class for issue by IOMICA.

Executive Committee Elections 2014

In May 2014 a new Executive Committee was elected:

Chairman	Lester Gilbert (GBR)
Vice Chairman	Federico Breuer Moreno (ARG)
General Secretary / Treasurer	Richard Rowen (IRL) (since resigned, replacement to be co-opted)
Racing Committee Chairman	Roy Granich (NZL) (since resigned, replacement to be co-opted)
Technical Committee Chairman	Graham Bantock (GBR)
Organisation & Policy Committee Chairman	Terry Rensch (GBR)
Publicity Officer	Robert Hobbs (GBR) (since resigned, replacement to be co-opted)
Regional Officer Americas	Jim Atkinson (USA)
Regional Officer Europe	Matteo Longhi (ITA)
Regional Officer Oceania	Selwyn Holland (AUS)

For probably the first time in the history of the association, all committee positions had two candidates for election. There were two groups of candidates, those with a reform agenda and those primarily from the existing administration. The resulting Executive Committee was initially made up of both groups, but since the election three returning members have resigned and the process of co-opting their replacements has begun.

IRSA-ISAF Matters

The IRSA Executive Committee is keen to develop with ISAF a more transparent formal process for managing input into Appendix E. While the relationship with ISAF has been positive, it has relied on personal contact or grace-and-favour privilege. The IRSA intends to propose to the ISAF executive a more formal route for submissions so that Appendix E development is structured and carried out more publicly and with broader stakeholder engagement. A number of valid concerns were raised about changes made to the 2013-2016 edition which illustrate the need for a better system.

IRSA Future Objectives

The exact list of objectives is still being developed, with priorities as follows:

Internal Administrative Reform: Publish officer voting records; Establish an independent Elections Officer to manage the IRSA EC election process; Set guidelines for IRSA committee operations; Review the incorporation of IRSA as a charity under UK law.

External Administrative Reform: Develop with ISAF a structured formal method for IRSA submissions concerning the Racing Rules of Sailing Appendix E, probably in a similar way to the Offshore Racing Congress; Develop with ISAF a formal way of liaison regarding the effects on radio sailing of changes to the Equipment Rules of Sailing; Develop with ISAF a formal way of liaison regarding the effects on radio sailing of changes to the Racing Rules of Sailing (apart from Appendix E).

IRSA Classes and Racing: Establish class committees for each of the RM, R10R, and RA Classes; Revise RM and R10R Class rules; Rewrite RA Class rules in ISAF Standard Class Rules format; Adopt the Radio Sailing Call Book for Judges and Umpires.

IRSA Promotion & Publication: Develop the IRSA Website to better serve members and sailors.