



# International Radio Sailing Association

[www.rudiosailing.org](http://www.rudiosailing.org)



## PRESS RELEASE

### IRSA General Assembly 2012

Following the successful General Assembly (GA) Meeting in April 2012 at which a majority of the membership participated, the IRSA Executive Committee (EC) held a further electronic meeting to implement the resulting discussions. Nominations were accepted for the positions of Vice-Chairman, Publicity Officer, Racing Rules Chairman, Regional Officer Europe and Regional Officer Oceania. The officers elected were Des Fairbank (RSA) Vice Chairman, Robert Hobbs (GBR) Publicity Officer, Roy Granich (NZL) Racing Rules Chairman, Bernard Merlaud (FRA) Regional Officer Europe and Ken Dobbie (AUS) Regional Officer Oceania.

The election of a Chairman and the positions of Secretary, Organisation and Policy Chairman, Technical Chairman and Treasurer were discussed by the elected Executive Committee. Des Fairbank (RSA) agreed to step up to Chairman and the following were co-opted to serve on the EC - Bruce Andersen (USA) Secretary, David Coode (GBR) Organisation and Policy Chairman and Val Provoost (NED) Technical Chairman. The post of Treasurer currently remains unfilled.

The revised Constitution was adopted and forwarded to ISAF, and has been posted on the IRSA web site [www.rudiosailing.org](http://www.rudiosailing.org).

The new and expanded electronic forums used by the EC are working well and enable quick communication throughout the World. To encourage the involvement of the IRSA Delegated National Members an additional thread will be setup for the DNMs to raise and discuss issues from the membership and bring them to the attention of the EC. Concerns raised at the GA regarding the new constitution will also be discussed via the DNM Forum. The other major issue arising from the GA was the re-introduction of membership fees - it was agreed that any proposals would be submitted to the DNM's for their consideration.

The Racing Committee under the chair of Roy Granich (NZL) has the following members - Lana Butler (CAN), Mike Judd (NZL), Paul Chisholm (AUS), Soren Andresen (DEN), Vinnie Zammit (MLT) and Nigel Winkley (GER). They have been working on the new Standard Sailing Instructions which will now be called the Sailing Instructions Guide. Reviewing and updating all racing procedures and documents will form much of their future work.

The Technical Committee under the chair of Val Provoost (NED) has the following members - Gerd Mengtes (GER), John Simpson (GBR), Remi Bres (FRA), Rob Bel (GBR) and Robert Hales (AUS). The Committee has been working on updates and rulings for the four international classes, with the IOM class creating by far the most work for this team.



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The Organisation and Policy Committee under the chair of David Coode (GBR) has Ken Dobbie (AUS) working with him - they will be looking at updating policies to accommodate changes resulting from the expanding IRSA family.

The accounts show that we have a surplus. However future demands on the finances may require the reintroduction of DNM's fees. To facilitate these discussions, budget proposals will be produced for the Committee and the ensuing proposals offered to the DNM's for their consideration.

There have been general discussions on the topics of the use of Umpires and Judges and the possibility of training specialists for our sport. The existing and the possible future cost of these officials at World and International Championships is a cause for concern and the EC welcomes proposals and comments on this aspect of our sport.

The web site continues to develop and will be completely re-vamped this year under the watchful and helpful eye of Richard Rowan, who looks after our web site and its forums and our electronic communication facilities.

IRSA is delighted to be an Affiliated Member of ISAF with a mandate to look after World Radio Sailing on their behalf. This approach to our sport offers a new centralised and dedicated organisation for radio sailing, incorporating twenty-nine Delegated National Member Associations and their skippers, and providing resources for world wide radio yacht designers, builders and equipment manufacturers, all of whom pursue a healthy and active outdoor sport without detriment to the environment.

Tight sheets and full sails to you all.

Robert Hobbs Publicity Officer 16th Aug 2012