

## Chairman's Report to the 2003 General Assembly of ISAF-RSD

In my last report to you, I see that the last item contained a request that we use HMS at our events. I am pleased to report that we have used the updated version HMS 2002 at both the World Marblehead Championship in Italy and European One Metre event in England. This would seem to have been a great success and I am sure will become the standard in the future.

We have now had on the water judging at three events with varying success. This system will need to be improved before it becomes the norm. With the experience that we have had, the PC will need to decide amongst other things, whether or not the umpires should stay in the control area with skippers, and whether the expense of ISAF umpires can be justified.

I would like to thank those Division Members who have hosted or are about to host, our events. I am aware that this can put a strain on any organisation. As usual, may I make a plea for those DMs who have not done this for some years to make every effort to so do?

Your Technical Committee has produced new Class Rules, which would appear to have been well received. Several interpretations have been issued for the IOM class, which may not always be popular, but may be better than rule changes! Of course, any DM may propose a rule change to any class.

IOMICA has made a relatively slow start, but I am glad that DMs are now starting to join and I would urge any that are still in doubt to do so without delay. A Marblehead ICA is in its infancy and needless to say, I would ask you to support this as well.

I am as yet unable to report any significant progress with our discussions with ISAF. When we have active ICAs, we can hope to take negotiations a stage further, so that we may become either a committee or at least a full member of ISAF. This would enable us, for example, to make submissions to ISAF.

You will see that there is motion from the PC to give a 50% 'holiday' on DMs subscriptions for 2003 only. This may be put to the General Assembly providing all DMs present agree. Our finances are in good shape, primarily due to the fact that some Officers have kindly not claimed their full entitlement of expenses. However this of course could change.

I would like to thank all PC members for their work over the last 18 months. I am, of course, very sorry that Keith Skipper has decided not to stand for re-election. His contribution to RSD as General Secretary/Treasurer should not be underestimated. He has not only guarded our monies with great diligence, but has kept the minutes and constitutionally kept us on the straight and narrow. He will be sorely missed not only for the secretarial work he has done, but also as a valuable member of the PC; in particular his work on our website has been outstanding.

John Cleave  
November 9<sup>th</sup> 2002.