

2018 GA EC Officer Reports

**Lester
Gilbert**

Chairman

2018-06-30

Lester Gilbert

Chairman, Executive Committee, International Radio Sailing Association

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Overview

The International Radio Sailing Association (IRSA) is an Affiliate Member of World Sailing (formerly ISAF), with a membership of 37 national members from 5 continents. It is the International class authority for the Marblehead, Ten Rater, and "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 of sailing, 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 which are affiliated to World Sailing but who are not IRSA national members.

Events 2016-18

2016 Marblehead World Championship. 23 to 30 Sep, Limone sul Garda (ITA).

2016 Ten Rater World Championship. 1 to 3 Oct, Limone sul Garda (ITA).

2016 IOM European Championship. 23 to 30 Sep, Vitoria (ESP).

2017 IOM World Championship. 13 to 20 May, Pierrelatte (FRA).

2018 Marblehead World Championship. 27 May to 1 Jun, Biblis (GER).

2018 Ten Rater World Championship. 22 to 25 May, Biblis (GER).

Future Events

2018 IOM European Championship.

2019 IOM World Championship.

2020 Marblehead World Championship.

2020 Ten Rater World Championship.

Interpretations, Class Rule Changes

No formal interpretations were issued in the period covered by this report. Class Rule changes brought minor revisions to the A, M and 10R Class rules. Inaugural class rules were issued for the Nano class and 65 class.

Executive Committee Elections 2016

In May 2016 a new Executive Committee was elected:

Chairman	Lester Gilbert (GBR)
Vice Chairman	Bernard Merlaud (FRA)
Secretary	Selwyn Holland (AUS)
Racing Committee Chairman	Gordon Davies (IRL), resigned 2016

	Patrick Villain (FRA) co-opted 2017
Technical Committee Chairman	Graham Bantock (GBR)
Organisation & Policy Committee Chairman	Terry Rensch (GBR), resigned 2017
Publicity Officer	Henning Faas (GER)
Regional Officer Americas	Jim Atkinson (USA), resigned 2017 Bob Wells (USA) co-opted 2017
Regional Officer Europe	Matteo Longhi (ITA)
Regional Officer Oceania	Glenn Dawson (AUS)

Committee Members

Following the election of the new Executive Committee, members were invited to the various IRSA committees and sub-committees, as follows.

Technical Committee: Bill Hagerup, Geoff Appleton, Gerd Mentges, Massimo Morin, Michel Brun, Remi Bres, Robert Grubisa, Robert Hales, Roberto Zanasi

65 Class working party: Andrew Cook, Cris Bolle, Fredo Vollmer, German Campos

Marblehead Class Committee: Ingo Jung, Lincoln McDowell, Nigel Winkley, Rob Vice

Ten Rater Class Committee: Gary Bromley, Patrice Montero, Richard Uttley

“A” Class Committee: Bill Green, Graham Howie, Peter Wiles

IRSA Achievements

AUT, THA, BLR, UKR, and RUS joined IRSA as DNMs.

Policies were agreed on:

- **IRSA Classes**, where an IRSA Class is designated “International”, “Recognised”, or “Classic”, entitling such a class to hold world and continental championships under delegated authority from World Sailing. An IRSA Class will be administered either by an IRSA Class Committee, or by an autonomous ICA. A new class may be initiated by a manufacturer or by one or more specialist designers or builders, or by IRSA, in which case it will be called a “Supported Class” and will not be a Designated Class. When a new class is “actively sailed” in sufficient numbers the Class Owners Association could seek IRSA Designation for its class and recognition as an autonomous ICA.
- **Prohibited events**, where IRSA will judge the actions needed to ensure equality, consistency, and quality in racing, and impartiality, confidence, and trust in event results. If it so judges, following the issue of a Notice of Race, IRSA will notify an event as a Possibly Prohibited Event in order that affected parties may receive advance warning, and in order that the event organiser may seek timely advice and assistance from IRSA. If it so judges, IRSA will pursue sanctions against competitors, Race Officials, or IRSA Members, proportionate to the harm actually suffered and which is proportionate to the fault and responsibility inherent in the actions of those involved. IRSA will always consider whether other actions, such as education or rule change, may be needed or desirable in addition to or instead of sanctions.
- **Inclusion and participation**, where an organising authority will accept the eligibility of any party without questioning or investigating whether that party may have previously participated in a Prohibited Event, and a party advantaged by this Policy shall not thereafter participate in a Prohibited Event.
- **Disciplinary procedures**, where a matter that arises within an IRSA Meeting is for the meeting to conduct a disciplinary hearing, while for a matter that arises outside of an IRSA Meeting, the relevant IRSA Committee provides prior notice of any allegation, exchanges evidence, and

conducts a disciplinary hearing which follows the principles of Justice. Provided that a matter is not being dealt with under any rule of the Racing Rules of Sailing or under any provision of World Sailing Regulation 35, a disciplinary hearing may be conducted by an IRSA committee as follows for the conduct of: an Office holder, the committee concerned; a committee chair, the EC; an Officer, the EC; and an IRSA Member, the EC under Article 5.3 of the Constitution.

- **Office holders copyright licence to IRSA**, where Officer Holders retain the copyright to their Work while holding office, and IRSA requires every Office Holder to licence their Work to IRSA.

Two radio sailing classes now have IRSA support: the Nano Class, and the 65 Class.

Three IRSA delegates joined the joint World Sailing – IRSA Working Group on Appendix E.

Other business

In 2017, much of the attention of the Executive Committee was focussed on changes to the IRSA Constitution and associated Regulations. The revised Constitution was passed by a Constitutional Assembly in 2018, and was approved by World Sailing shortly thereafter.

A working party was convened on the RG65 Class, where an IRSA-supported 65 Class was developed, such that any RG65 and DF65 boat measures under the 65 rules. We continue to receive interest from the RC Laser to become an IRSA Designated Class.

A Solicitor's Letter was sent to a certain individual, resulting in an apology for any defamation of the IRSA Chairman.

The Executive Committee regained control of the IRSA Bank Account, but significant difficulties remain with transfer of authority from one elected committee to the next.

Appendices

(To follow)

Appendix A documents the formal proposals considered by the Executive Committee and the Officer voting, and Appendix B the topics discussed.

Lester Gilbert

Executive Committee Chairman, IRSA

Bernard Merlaud
Vice Chairman

I was elected in 2016 as a non-member of CFEIE team, so during these two years I was a little aside the Executive Committee. My only mission was to represent IRSA EC at the Marblehead and Ten Rater World Championship 2016 in Italy. The reports are available at :

<https://www.radiosailing.org/documents/category/218-reports?download=361:irsa-representative-report-10r-worlds-2016-ita> and <https://www.radiosailing.org/documents/category/218-reports?download=362:irsa-representative-report-m-worlds-2016-ita>

Nevertheless I have also participated in the rewriting of the new texts of IRSA Constitution and Regulation and some others. During the constitutional assembly I have acted (as vice chairman and French DNM) to maintain the posts of Regional Officers and against the creation of chairs of International Class Committee

Bernard Merlaud

Vice Chairman, IRSA

EC representative at the 2016 M and 10R Worlds.

Selwyn
Holland

Secretary

2016/2017 and the beginning of 2018 has been a busy and interesting time for the IRSA. Others will give more detail in their area of expertise, but following is a listing of the major items occurring in and around the Executive Committee from where I see it.

- The 2016 General Assembly was a step forward in the aim to eventually have all meetings on line with a continuous forum for Members and Officers.
- Final approval of the much needed class rule updates.
- Throughout 2016 and 2017 a working committee continued to focus on updating the Constitution and Regulations in line with the published aims of the current EC.
- Consultation occurred through 2017 in a dedicated IRSA forum with the RG65 ICA to develop an international (in line with WS guidelines) accepted set of class rules. These have been renamed as the 65 Class Rules.
- The Nano Class was introduced. This is an IRSA initiative to promote and develop a new class based on the merging 3d printing technology.
- A Constitutional Assembly with the DNMs, in early 2018, agreed and set the final wording of the updated document.
- The IRSA Executive Committee Agenda continues to be updated and followed. This started 4 years ago to identify the needs and focus on the modernisation the IRSA. The Agenda has been an essential guiding light and helps the Officers to focus on a set of agreed concepts that are seen to be important for the future evolution of the IRSA as a centre point for the international RC community.
- Continued development of the Welcome Packs for all incoming Executive and committee members. This helps new officers to quickly understand the workings of this professional site.
- A number of new national members have been welcomed in recent time: Austria, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Greece, Thailand, Peoples Republic of Korea.
- An important working party between World Sailing and the IRSA is currently being established to focus on future consultation and variations of Appendix E.
- Support of the 2018 twin M Class and 10R Class World Championships. This is the second of this championship model and showed a strong increase in both competitor numbers and nations involved from across the globe. The EC is currently evaluating two nominated sites for the 2020 twin World Championships: Italy and England.
- Continuation of the IRSA site as a focus for documentation, news and the all important calendar for major international events across the globe. With new users at around 80% of the total and about 1000 visitors per week, this is a great central resource for the RC community.
- Establishment of the “DNM Board and General Assembly” forum within the IRSA forum structure. This is an important new professional site focussed on the communication between the IRSA Executive Committee and the Designated National Members. It was first used successfully for the Constitutional Assembly in early 2018, now for the General Assembly. It will be a permanent communication tool for the DNMs and the IRSA EC. All future DNM notices will now pass through this forum.

There are obviously many dozens of emails regularly cycling around the IRSA and these are too numerous to report on here. In my opinion, the key changes that have made the secretary’s position (and the EC in general) more efficient have been:

1. the establishment of the future looking EC Agenda 4 years ago,
2. development of the modern IRSA internet site serving the EC, the DNMs and also the RC community in general,
3. and the more sophisticated use of dedicated forums to allow for professional interactions between the various stake holders associated with the IRSA.

	<p>The world has moved on from association meetings in hotels at world and international championships and brief cases full of folders and notes.</p> <p>Selwyn Holland</p> <p><i>IRSA Secretary Member of the Working Party updating the Constitution and Regulations Chairman 10R Class Committee Chairman of the RG65/65 Class Rules Working Party</i></p>
<p>Graham Bantock</p> <p>Chairman Technical Committee</p>	<p>Since the 2016 versions of the class rules were released two changes out of the control of IRSA have made it necessary to revise those class rules again in 2018. These were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a change to the ERS definition of ‘spar’ • the introduction in the RRS of the concept of a ‘technical committee’ that has the authority to make a protest at an event <p>At the same time the opportunity was taken to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct minor errors/omissions that had been noted since 2016 • make improvements to the sail maker guidance material on the Ten Rater certificate • make improvements to the measurer guidance on the A Class certificate • enable the use of the A Class certificate for free sailing boats • add information useful to Official Measurers (OMs) and Certification Authorities (CAs) <p>Several questions have been posed by IRSA DNMs regarding the application of the various class rules and it has been possible to respond to these exclusively by posting Q&As. These now form useful reference material for OMs and CAs alike.</p> <p>One such question recently raised awareness of a general lack of understanding of the application of one of the Ten Rater Class rules. In order to avoid the possibility of non-compliant boats attending the 2018 world championship the issue was handled as a Q&A and advised directly to the DNMs and the participant. It is anticipated that a proposal from one or more DNMs to change the class rule will follow.</p> <p>The class rules and certification material are fully up to date and are supported by other technical resources (Q&As, guidance for OMs & CAs, measurement guides, event inspection guide). Class rules and certification materials exist in a format acceptable for an IRSA class designation for the 65 and NANO classes when and if there is sufficient interest to warrant such designation.</p> <p>Generally the IRSA technical documents are fully integrated, up to date and fit for purpose. All the problem areas in the class rules material known about in 2014, and more discovered since then, have been eliminated and it is gratifying to find that no interpretations of the 2016 class rules have been necessary so far.</p> <p>For their support in this work my thanks go to the membership of the TC which is much reduced from its pre-2016 size but contains several members who have long and wide experience in the technical field and amongst whom eminently capable future TC Chairmen can be found.</p> <p>Graham Bantock</p> <p><i>Chairman, IRSA Technical Committee Member of the Constitutional and Regulations working party Member of the RG65/65 Class working party</i></p>

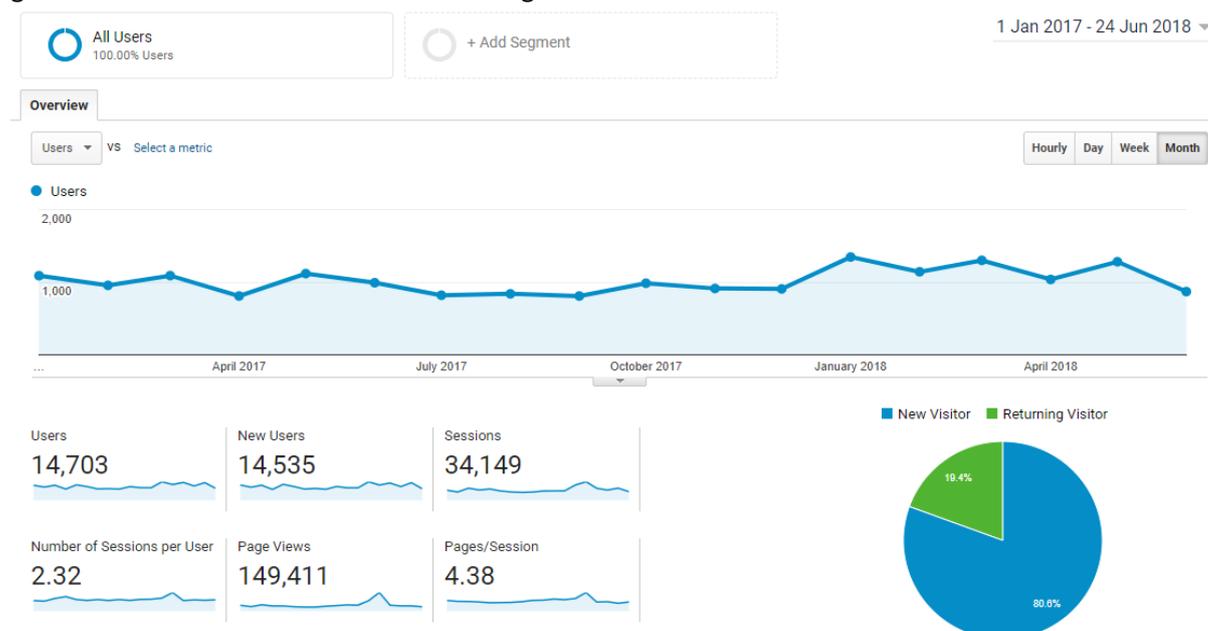
<p><u>Patrick Vilain</u></p> <p>Chairman Racing Committee</p>	<p>TBA</p>
<p><u>Henning Faas</u></p> <p>Publicity</p>	<h2>Activity and Achievements</h2> <h3>Projects</h3> <p>We had several greater projects that we worked on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Championship Support 2016/2018 • International Event Calendar • Questions and Answers • New class pages • New forums for RG65 and DNM Meetings <h3>World Championship Support 2016/2018</h3> <p>We prepared the websites for the world championships as subdomains of the radio sailing domain. Both websites were separated databases and content management systems. In preparation phase and during the world championship the websites have been managed by the IRSA publicity officer. As a final step we will transfer this content to static content to host the results on the long term view. Second I prepared several press releases before and during the world championship. More details at the end of this report.</p> <p>Development of a system to manage the entries as they come in and manage a system for uploading race results during the event.</p> <h3>International Event Calendar</h3> <p>At the end of 2016 I started the implementation of an event management system on our website. Together with Matteo Longhi I developed the idea of this event calendar which should be prepared for adding events by our members in the future. We decided to use a professional module addition to our content management system "JEvents" which guarantees for good support in the future and is modular to add functionality when needed. For the first year 2017 Matteo collected all the events and we set up the calendar with this event list. Hopefully we can motivate our members to do this job in the future together with us.</p> <h3>Question and Answers</h3> <p>This part of our website becomes more and more important. Up to now, we have over 80 entries and a high frequency of readers. During the year, we made several improvements: new categories, tagging items with more than one category, menu items for each category, and latest new entries in Q&A on the homepage. Thanks to the TC Chairman for putting all this useful information on our website.</p> <h3>New Class pages</h3> <p>The new Nano and 65 Classes needed Homepages on our website. Also to prepare document categories, Q&A Categories and Menu Items.</p>

New Forum RG65, DNM Meetings

Different Forums have to be developed for the relatively open 65 Class discussion and for the Meetings with our DNMs.

Website

The website has reached a good reputation and positioning on SEO. The visitor's frequency is also very good and we had visitors from around the globe.



News

Thanks to all the Committee chairmen giving us the Information necessary to produce so much articles.

2016			
Nr.	Date	Cat	Title
20	01. Jun	TC	Technical Information for International Classes
21	01. Jun	EC	Calling for nominations to IRSA Committees
22	04. Jun	EC	2016-S-1A Guidelines on Committee Decorum
23	05. Jun	EC	2016-S-1B Conduct of committee meetings
24	05. Jun	EC	2016-S-1C Conduct of committee elections
25	06. Jun	EC	New Member Russian Yachting Federation
26	08. Jun	EC	2016-S-1D Forum access for officers and members
27	08. Jun	EC	2016-S-1F Adopt disciplinary procedures
28	09. Jun	EC	2016-S-2 Office holder licence
29	22. Jun	EC	New Member Sailing Federation of Ukraine
30	30. Jun	IRSA	Notice to IRSA Members
31	15. Jul	EC	2016-R-4A: IRSA levies for M and 10R Worlds
32	16. Jul	EC	Sending a representative to the 2016 Worlds
33	16. Jul	EC	Co-opting Bob Wells into the position of RO Americas
34	17. Jul	EC	Election of Chairmen of the ICCs

35	20. Jul	TC	Marblehead certificate update
36	21. Jul	IRSA	How can I participate in the development of class rules or racing rules or other IRSA Issues?
37	10. Aug	TC	Marblehead certificate update
38	05. Sep	RC	IRSA Race Management Policies
39	05. Sep	TC	Release notes for Appendix E - Identification on Sails - for 2017
40	07. Sep	IRSA	How Can I Volunteer To Help In The IRSA?
41	12. Sep	RC	Addendum Q update
42	14. Sep	RC	IRSA NOR and SI Guide
43	14. Sep	RC	IRSA Discretionary Penalties Guidelines for Radio Sailing
44	20. Sep	IRSA	IRSA World Championships 2016 Italy
45	23. Sep	EC	Resignation of Racing Committee Chairman. Calling for replacement nominations
46	29. Sep	IRSA	2016 IRSA World Championship Italy, Halftime
47	01. Oct	IRSA	2016 IRSA Marblehead World Championship Italy, Brad Gibson GBR gets the hat trick
48	04. Oct	IRSA	2016 IRSA Ten Rater World Championship Italy, Brad Gibson GBR takes the Title from Graham Bantock GBR.
49	14. Oct	TC	Certificates Updates
50	23. Oct	EC	Terry Rensch O&P Chairman tenders his resignation
51	15. Dec	MICC	Marblehead and 10R International Class Associations
52	28. Dec	IRSA	2018 World Championship Marblehead / Ten Rater awarded to Germany

2017

Nr.	Date	Cat	Title
1	16. Jan	IRSA	Event calendar for National and International Events
2	27. Feb	TC	RG65 Provisional Class Rules
3	16. Mar	EC	2016 Officer Reports
4	23. Aug	IRSA	Greece has successfully applied to be the latest Member of the IRSA
5	08. Nov	TC	10 Rater Rig & Sail Measurement Guide
6	08. Nov	TC	Guide Notes for Event Equipment Inspection
7	08. Nov	EC	New IRSA Constitution Proposal Defeated
8	22. Nov	EC	Clarification document on IRSA Class Policy
9	27. Nov	EC	IRSA Policy on Prohibited Events and its Guide document
10	10. Dec	EC	Constitutional Assembly, January 2018
11	13. Dec	IRSA	Nominations are being called for the 2020 Twin World Championships (M, 10R)

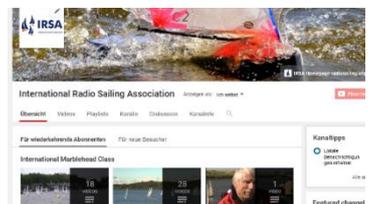
2018

Nr	Date	Cat	Title
1	2. Jan	TC	Revised class rules for 2018
2	5. Jan	EC	New Member Austrian Sailing Federation
3	10. Jan	EC	IRSA Policy on Inclusion and Participation
4	11. Jan	TC	Introducing the 65 Class rules
5	23. Jan	EC	New Member Yacht Racing Association of Thailand
6	28. Jan	IRSA	IRSA Q&A: Radio Sailing Events
7	9. Feb	EC	New Member Belarus Sailing Federation
8	11. Feb	IRSA	65 Class German NCA
9	28. Feb	TC	New certification material for revised class rules 2018
10	24. Mar	IRSA	Updated Constitution and Regulations

11	04. Jun	IRSA	Press Release: IRSA World Championship Radio Sailing 2018 Brad Gibson again victorious
12	13. Jun	IRSA	Nominations for the twin M and 10R World Championships 2020

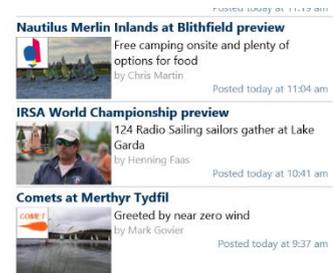
Social Media

We continued to share news around radio sailing on our social media channels. A special hype was the M and 10R worlds in 2016/2018.

<p>IRSA</p> <p>Follower: 687 Posts: ~50 People's reached: ~350</p>	<p>M</p> <p>Follower: 538 Posts: ~75 People's reached: ~3000</p>	<p>IOM</p> <p>Follower: 866 Posts: ~75 People's reached: ~1200</p>
<p>10R</p> <p>Follower: 351 Posts: ~75 People's reached: ~800</p>	<p>A</p> <p>Follower: 275 Posts: ~20 People's reached: ~100</p>	

Press Releases

In preparation for the world championship 2016 we renewed the media contact list with now ca. 20 press contacts and added for the worlds all webmaster contacts of our members. We then prepared one press release ahead of the event one during the event and 2 final press releases. All press releases have been translated to German and Italian language.



Nr	Date	Title
1	20.09.2016	IRSA World Championships 2016 Italy (preparation)
2	28.09.2016	2016 IRSA World Championship Italy, Halftime
3	01.10.2016	2016 IRSA Marblehead World Championship Italy, Brad Gibson GBR gets the hat trick.
4	04.10.2016	2016 IRSA Ten Rater World Championship Italy, Brad Gibson GBR takes the Title from Graham Bantock GBR.
5	14.10.2016	Special Report for the AMYA 10Rater Magazine.
6	22.05.2018	IRSA World Championship Radio Sailing 2018 Germany
7	04.06.2018	IRSA World Championship Radio Sailing

		2018 Brad Gibson again victorious
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Items for the Future

- Establish separate websites for Classes with shared content from IRSA + Additions
- Improvements of events calendar
- Development of a concept for world ranking lists

Henning Faas

IRSA Publicity Officer

IT support

IRSA Website coordinator

Matteo Longhi

Regional Officer Europe

As Regional officer Europe I'm very happy about the mood that radiosailing has in our continent. Interest in recognized classes is growing and the rising numbers of entries to National Events show it. More and more skippers are travelling around Europe to sail at International meetings and are sharing their experiences. Most part of the fleets have seen a renew of the designs of the boats that is a symptomatic sign of vivid interest into the activity.

Together with Publicity Officer, Henning Faas, we developed an Irsa calendar, available on Irsa web site, that includes all National and International major events to help all the skippers to easily browse events and to better plan their racing seasons.

Of course 2 times combined World Championships for Marblehead and 10 rater classes have halped a lot the advertising of radiosailing. More than 100 skippers each times are a good business card!

For the coming 2020 WCs Irsa has already received 2 bids and that is another good sign of the strength of the classes.

In 2016 Russia and Ukraine joined Irsa and recently 1 new member, Belarus, and 2 renewed members, Greece and Austria, joined Irsa too. Now European coverage for Irsa members is interestingly wide.

Matteo Longhi

IRSA RO Europe

Chairman Marblehead Class Committee

IRSA Race Calendar Coordinator

Bob Wells

Regional Officer Americas

I was coopted for this post in June 2016 by Chairman Lester Gilbert with the direction that RO Americas has no official responsibilities in the age of the internet, but he wished that I would vote my conscience on the executive committee. Lester also noted that the position of RO Americas would be eliminated in the 2018 elections in favor of IRSA Class representation on the Executive Committee. I already favored that direction before being coopted by Lester for RO Americas, so it was easy for me to accept this position "without responsibility". There were two surprises for me while I was RO Americas. The first was how active IRSA is and how much there was to read to vote responsibly on the Executive Committee. The second was the position of RO Americas survived the 2018 elections.

In the Americas radio sailing is alive and well, but of the IRSA classes only the IOM is active in the USA and CAN. M, 10R and A classes remain on life support compared to the activity in Europe and other parts of the world. The RG65 class is active, and it is too soon to tell if the IRSA 65 class will be

	<p>accepted.</p> <p>The reason that I am not standing for reelection is that most of the discussion is rules based, and rules minutia in the evening, after work, at home in front of computer is not my passion. There are other better ways for me to support radio sailing. After two years inside IRSA I am more convinced this is a well-run proactive and transparent organization. Thank you for the opportunity.</p> <p>Bob Wells</p> <p><i>Regional Officer Americas</i></p>
<p><u>Glenn Dawson</u></p> <p>Regional Officer Oceania</p>	<p>My task primarily has been to participate in Executive discussions, trying to provide input which is relevant to our region. I have also participated in conversations in relation to the Racing Committee as I had previously been working in that field.</p> <p>There have been a number of constructive conversations amongst Oceania countries over the past two years, and I hope this will continue. Australia and New Zealand are working closely together in developing Race management protocols, as well as other administrative initiatives. We hope that some of the Asian countries will continue to grow and further develop their radio sailing communities. In particular, the admission of PRK (Democratic Republic of Korea) and THA (Thailand) over the past two years has been encouraging. We would love to see a few more Asian countries join the fray in the next couple of years.</p> <p>The move towards a class oriented Association was not successful at the recent Constitutional Assembly, which I believe was a pity. The vast majority of IRSA business is class based, so it makes sense to me to reorganise the administration of the Executive along those lines.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the task of representing the region will continue, and I encourage all Oceania member nations to think along the lines of developing International Class Associations for the future of IRSA.</p> <p>Glenn Dawson</p> <p><i>Regional Officer Oceania</i> <i>Contributing member Racing Committee</i> <i>Chairman A Class Committee</i></p>