

REPORT TO THE PC MEETING JANUARY 2000

The time I have been able to make available to Radio Sailing has been severely limited this year, as much of the second half of the year, has been taken in establishing my own consultancy business.

The following sets out the main items that have been considered during the past year.

Rules and Recommendations for the Adoption and Control of International Classes

The most significant change to these is the inclusion of the Recognised Class, this is an approved ISAF category and these classes are permitted to hold Championships.

A table is included in the RRACIC with the suggested numbers required to achieve International and Recognised class status. These number requirements appear to be somewhat more onerous than ISAF's requirements as is shown in the table below.

Item	International Class	Recognised Class
Number of Countries	6	4 3(ii)
Number of Continent	3	- 2
Boats Actively Racing (i)	20	20
Sailboards	100	30
i) Actively Racing is considered to be a minimum of twenty boats registered with a National Owner's Association or Member National Authority if acting as the National Owner's Association.		
ii) Number of countries varies with the size of boat.		

In North America there are a number classes that would more than qualify them numerically but are only sailed in two countries, America and Canada. Subject to compliance with the other requirements of the RRACIC, consideration should be given to reducing the number of countries sailing recognised classes to 2 rather than 3 or 4.

The text of the RRACIC has been agreed with the Technical Committee Chairman who was responsible for preparing the draft.

Recommendation: adopt the RRACIC but consider reduction in the number of countries sailing a recognised class.

The PC needs to address the issue of class associations for the existing International Classes, it would seem reasonable that if new classes are required to establish an ICA before granting either recognised or international status, then the existing classes should be required to comply as well.

This is a particularly difficult problem and if the response of the GA in Malta to 1 metre ICA is anything to go by, I see little hope of the current situation changing.

Term of Reference for PC Members

These have been circulated to the PC and the O & P Committee but little response has been received. Since the original circulation of the TOR some changes have been made.

A standard clause has been added to all the TOR setting out the relative prior of the documents.

The TOR has been brought into line with the current Regulations.

Recommendation: adopt the TOR.

Eligibility Rules for Competitors at World and Continental Championships

Events of the past year have shown the current rules concerning the eligibility rules for competitors to compete for countries for which they are not a citizen are open to interpretation. The rules should be such that the requirements are totally clear so that there could be no misunderstandings.

Procedure for Electronic Meetings

The past year has shown that a number of the issues regarding electronic meetings have got somewhat out of hand. It has previously been suggested that the PC should hold electronic meetings at fixed intervals between the annual PC meetings, possibly at the end of May and September. This would allow a reasonable gap after the PC meeting and the first electronic meeting and between electronic meetings.

The Secretary, based on submission made by Committee members should prepare the agenda for each meeting. A period of 2 weeks should be allowed for discussion followed by one week for consolidation of the comments. It is suggested that the Committee member, who proposed the item for inclusion on the Agenda, do the comment consolidation. It is unlikely that the Secretary will have sufficient time to consolidate the discussions for all of the items.

The summary of the discussions should then be circulated together with final motions for voting on. Items that are formally seconded will then be voted on with the votes for and against being sent to the Secretary.

The Secretary will notify the PC of the results of the ballot.

The above process does not stop the PC from taking decisions on emergency issues as provided for by the Constitution.

Jib Numbers

The current requirement is that single digit sail numbers shall have a zero in front of the number.

This has caused problems and continues to cause problems where, for example, you have boats 09 and 90 in the same heat. Calling of numbers, particularly at a race start, is difficult enough without having to decide which way the number is. The problem becomes more difficult if the sun is on the far side of the boat.

If single sail number boats had a single jib number this would allow more flexibility where there are two boats with the same number i.e. 9 could become 19, 91, 191, 119, 911. I have discussed this with a leading International Jury member and she was totally in support of this proposal and was hoping to have it adopted in full size classes as well.

Race Officer's Report

The Race Officers Report for Malta draw some comments briefly and then a number of issues raised in that report just seem to fade away.

If the PC requires Race Officers to produce a report it would not seem unreasonable that the PC should give issues raised due consideration, if not, there seems little point in asking for the report in the first place.

International Race Officers

The Chairman of the RRC is currently establishing a list of International Jury Members with Radio Sailing event experience.

It would seem appropriate that a similar list be prepared for International Race Officers with radio Sailing Experience.

Changes to the Regulations

The Regulations currently do not include clauses dealing with the PC positions such as the International Regatta Officer and Regional Officers, the PC needs to decide if similar clauses to those already included for the other PC positions should be added.

For consistency it is recommended that, the Regulations, as well as the Terms of Reference should cover all the PC positions.

If the PC meeting approves the revised RRACIC then this will also require further changes to the Regulations.

D.Coode

Chairman Organisation and Policy Committee