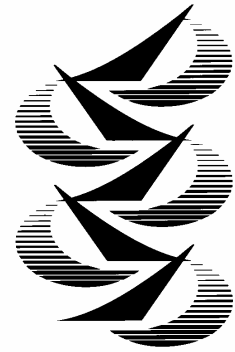


INTERNATIONAL SAILING FEDERATION RADIO SAILING DIVISION



I S A F

AFFILIATE MEMBER

RADIO SAILING IN THE AMERICAS 2003

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The highlight of radio sailing in the Americas during 2003 was the IOM World Championship Regatta hosted by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club June 5-11, under the leadership of Don Martin. David Coode was Principal Race Officer. Some 82 international competitors participated. The quality of racing was excellent, and in the end it all came down to who beat who in the last race between Trevor Binks GBR 72 and Craig Smith AUS 47 for the IOM World Title. Trevor with his consistent A Heat finishes came out on top. Since this was the first IOM World Championship held in North America it did a great deal to stimulate and promote interest in the IOM class in both Canada and the United States.

In most other respects this was a year of steady growth in radio sailing in both the United States and Canada. Of the 24 classes recognized by the American Model Yachting Association, the top ten in terms of numbers of class owners were: Soling IM (721), Victoria (367), EC12(358), US 1 Meter (317) Marblehead (317), CR914(242), ODOM (178), 36/600 (172), Star45 (142), IOM (130). Membership in the AMYA is now about 2750. Dick Rutledge has succeeded Jack Gregory as President of the AMYA, but Jack remains very active in the Association as editor of *Model Yachting* and as officer for international relations.

Membership in the Canadian Radio Yachting Association has now risen to 225. The largest classes are Soling 1 Metre (135), IOM (88), US 1 Metre (59), Victoria (25) and Mini 12 (25). Canadian Championships were held for the IOM Class in Kingston in September with 21 competitors (including 6 from the USA) and for the Soling 1 Metre in Windsor, May 24-5. Unfortunately interest in the Marblehead Class appears to be waning. For the second year in a row the planned Canadian Marblehead Championship was cancelled because of insufficient entries.

The Club Argentino de Yatemodelismo remains active. During 2003 Pablo Bravo became the newly elected chairman. Current membership is 38. The two major classes raced continue to be the 1 Metre-ULY (the South American one design class based on the IOM but restricted to a no. 2 rig and raced in Argentina, Brazil and Chile) and the RG65-ULY (a South American 65 cm. development class sailed in both Argentina and Brazil). Current registrations in Argentina in the two classes are 33 and 25 with 5 new boats in each class in 2003.

Despite repeated attempts to obtain a report from the Uniao Brasileiro de Vela RC-VBV, I was unable to obtain information on activities in Brazil during 2003. However, we do know from the Argentinian report that a South American Marblehead Championship was held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, October 31-November 2, with 14 competitors from Brazil and one from Chile.