

INTERNATIONAL STAR CLASS YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MIAMI FLORIDA, USA -- 15 MARCH 1997

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Dierk Thomsen.

Present were:

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Non-Voting Members</u>	<u>In Attendance</u>
Dierk Thomsen	William Buchan (TC)	Mario Caprile
James Schoonmaker	John Koopman (MC)	Alexander Hagen
Harry W. Walker		Rob Maine
Kim Fletcher	<u>Committee Chairmen</u>	Forrest Miller
Douglas D. Smith	Charles Cook (RMC)	Ed Sprague
Riccardo Simoneschi	Hal Haenel (OC)	Diane Dorr
	T. Rickard (IGC)	

2.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

7 December 1996, ISCYRA Central Office, Glenview, Illinois, USA

The minutes of the 7 December 1996 Administrative Committee meeting in Glenview, Illinois, USA were approved with the following additions:

(under 3.1 President's Report)

3.1, add the following: "Mr. Thomsen advised that International Sailing Federation (ISAF) President Paul Henderson offered the Star Class a chance to appear before the ISAF Council in Lausanne, Switzerland in May. It was unanimously approved to accept this invitation and make a presentation regarding the exclusion of the keelboat fleet racing discipline from the 2000 Olympics. Ideas were discussed regarding the content of and spokespersons for this presentation.

(under 4.1 1997 Western Hemisphere Youth Championship)

4.1, add the following line at the end of the paragraph: fit is the intention of the Administrative Committee that this money be used to attract boats from other fleets."

3.0 President's Report -- Dierk Thomsen

3.1 Activity Report

President Dierk Thomsen reported that after the December Administrative Committee meeting he went to Boston to meet with Charles Cook to discuss the Star Class Racing

Rules, Gary MacDonald to talk about marketing ideas, and Shery Hughes regarding the 1997 LOG. He also met John Koopman and reviewed the current status of the Measurement Committee and the transition between past and present Chief Measurers.

Mr. Thomsen noted that welcome letters were sent to all the 1997 committee members and thank you letters were sent to those 1996 committee members that were not appointed to 1997 committees.

Mr. Thomsen stated that he met with Marketing Committee member Peter Erzberger in Hamburg to begin the draft for a marketing concept. Mr. Thomsen plans to present the marketing concept at the next Administrative Committee in June, after more discussion with other Marketing Committee members.

Mr. Thomsen advised that a meeting of all Star Class committee members was held at the Coral Reef Yacht Club on the evening of 12 March 1997. The meeting was very productive and included discussion of Olympic status, sail amendments and crew weight proposals.

3.2 International Sailing Federation Decision

Mr. Thomsen reviewed some reactions to the decision made in Brighton regarding the 2000 Olympics. After polling the Administrative Committee on various courses of action, general consensus was that the Class should not take legal action but should concentrate on positive actions for the future. James Schoonmaker suggested that the Star Class send in a submission regarding Olympic disciplines and classes to the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) by next year.

3.3 Presentation to the International Sailing Federation

The ISAF Council will meet on 10 May 1997 in Lausanne, Switzerland. Mr. Thomsen stated that he sent a letter accepting Paul Henderson's invitation to make a presentation at this meeting. Discussion followed regarding Star Class spokespersons and the objective of this presentation. Mr. Thomsen advised that the spokespersons will convene with him in Lausanne on 9 May 1997 to review the presentation.

In determining the direction that this presentation will take, the Administrative Committee unanimously voted to support Uwe von Below's letter that requests that the keelboat fleet racing discipline be included for the 2004 Olympics. It was decided to also ask for reconsideration of the Brighton decision for the 2000 Olympics that excluded the keelboat fleet racing discipline.

At this time, the Administrative Committee temporarily departed from the agenda for a visit from ISAF President Paul Henderson. President Thomsen reviewed the Star Class reactions to the 2000 Olympic Classes decision and expressed some of the main concerns of the Star Class members. Mr. Henderson stated that he came to this meeting to show respect for the Star Class and to offer some explanation about what happened in Brighton. He reviewed the events that occurred since the Hamburg meeting in 1995. Mr. Henderson advised that the seven-year discipline rule of the IOC

was ignored and will not be ignored in the future. A long discussion was held with Mario Caprile and Mr. Henderson regarding how the Star Class can assist the ISAF in a positive way to get the eleventh medal.

President Thomsen requested three final decisions from the voting members of the Administrative Committee:

- 1) Should the Star Class make a presentation at the ISAF council meeting in May in Lasanne? All were in favor.
- 2) Should the Star Class make this presentation if the ISAF gets the eleventh medal for the 2000 Olympics and the ten Savannah classes are in again? All were in favor.
- 3) Should this presentation be made if the ISAF will not get this eleventh medal? All were in favor.

3.4 Star Class Ranking List

Discussion of this was postponed until the next meeting on 7 June 1997.

3.5 Star Class World Cup

Discussion of this was postponed until the next meeting on 7 June 1997.

3.6 Star Class Rules Part 1

Mr. Thomsen stated that the Star Class Rules Part 1 that will be published in the 1997 LOG only contains the change of the word "yacht" to "Boat". He added that the Star Class Rules Part 2 includes the amendments made by Regatta Management Committee Chairman Charles Cook to coincide with the ISAF Racing Rules. These amendments were approved by the Administrative Committee, the International Governing Committee, the Judiciary Board, and the Star Class International and Continental Officers. Mr. Thomsen requested that everyone review the Star Class Rules Part 1 and send him any suggestions for revisions of, or additions to, the rules before the 7 June 1997 meeting.

Harry Walker and James Schoonmaker advised that the 1998 LOG should include the International Governing Committee decision from their 11 August 1983 meeting that 15 is the minimum number of boats needed to hold a Silver Star Championship (A-event).

Mr. Thomsen reviewed resolutions that the Kieler Fleet plans to propose, including: to adopt the 720 penalty rule; to officially include the Sailing Committee in the Star Class Rules; to allow district officers to be appointed to the International Governing Committee; and to adjust Star Class Rule (STCR) 29.6 to allow the Administrative Committee to approve more isolated members to take part in the Championships. Kim Fletcher suggested that a resolution regarding STCR 29.6 also include the removal of the statement "Approval of such entries by the Ad. Comm. shall be based on a demonstrated interest in forming a Star fleet in the location of the isolated member."

3.7 Election Procedure

Mr. Thomsen reviewed the nomination and election procedure of the Star Class and questioned whether the election of candidates by write-in votes was a valid part of this procedure. All agreed that votes written on the ballot by the voter should be counted in the same way as those votes cast for the duly nominated officers appearing on the ballot.

4.0 Vice-President's Report -- James Schoonmaker

James Schoonmaker reported that the 1998 Spring Championship of the Western Hemisphere should be held on the west coast of North America, place and dates to be determined. The 1998 North American Championship will be sailed on the northern part of Lake George in early September, exact dates to be determined.

The status of the 1997 Spring Championship of the Western Hemisphere was discussed. Diane Dorr reported that the amount of entries submitted to the Central Office increased from 3 to 27 in the past two weeks. Mr. Schoonmaker pointed out that the sailors in North America tend to submit entries prior to the 30-day deadline and later decide not to sail. He proposed that the Continental Committee can agree, subject to approval by the Administrative Committee, to decrease the deadline for the A-events to 21 days prior to the day of the first race. It was agreed to keep the deadline for M-events to 30 days prior and to decrease the deadline for the A-events to 21 days prior to the day of the first race.

5.0 Vice-President's Report -- Uwe von Below

Uwe van Below was unable to attend the meeting. Dierk Thomsen reported that the 1997 European Spring Championship will be sailed in Palma de Mallorca in April, approximately 48 entries have been received for this championship. The 1997 European Championship will be held in Varberg, Sweden in August.

The 1998 European Spring Championship will take place in Monaco. The 1998 European Championship will be sailed in Kiel. Lake Attersee in Austria is being considered for the 1999 European Spring Championship.

6.0 Secretary's Report -- Harry Walker

Harry Walker reported that everything is running smoothly. Dierk Thomsen thanked Harry Walker for writing his Chronicle column for the Starlights after each meeting since it describes the activities of the Administrative Committee to the members of the Class.

7.0 Treasurer's Report -- Kim Fletcher

7.1 Review of 1996 Year End Financial Statement and Auditors' Report

The 1996 Year End Financial Statement and Auditors Report was reviewed by Kim Fletcher and approved by all. A copy of the 1996 Year End Financial Statement is available upon request made to the Central Office.

7.2 Review of 1997 Budget for Final Approval

Final approval of the budget was given with the correction on the title of the "Salary - Editor" category under "Class Activity Expenses". It was recommended to change the title to "Starlights Expense" or "Editorial Fee". This change also applies to the monthly financial statements. [See attachment 7.2.]

7.3 Review of February Financial Statement

The February Financial Statement was presented by Mr. Fletcher and approved with corrections. [The corrected February Financial Statement is attached.]

7.4 Internal Revenue Service Audit for 1994

Mr. Fletcher advised that we should write a resolution to amend the purpose in the Star Class Rules to include the statement, "The association is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code." This was recommended by the United States Internal Revenue Service as result of their audit for 1994. Mr. Fletcher stated that the San Diego Bay Fleet could submit this resolution after consulting the accountants.

7.5 Trademark Revenue

Dierk Thomsen pointed out that we currently have two signed trademark agreements on file at the Central Office, but have not yet received any royalties. Kim Fletcher will contact Pete Slaughter of Harbor Sports Gear to check on the status of the royalty check owed to us. Sandy Rowse is apparently still trying to sell the magnetic signs for cars and vans for which she signed a trademark agreement, but no one knows if she has sold any of these signs.

7.6 Insurance

Gene McCarthy's letter outlining the Star Class insurance policies was reviewed. Mr. Fletcher will check if coverage under this policy and the US Sailing policy are worldwide. Attachment.

8.0 Delegate's Report -- Riccardo Simoneschi

8.1 Report on the Situation in Europe

Riccardo Simoneschi discussed the situation of the European boat builders and those trying to sell their used boats. He stated that new boats are not being ordered and that sales of used Stars and orders for new Stars have been canceled. He announced that an Italian boat builder, Sinless Boats, was recently approved to build Stars.

Mr. Simoneschi advised that the mood among the European Star sailors is low and there is

much uncertainty about the future. Because of funds that are received for participation in the Olympics, many Star sailors will sail a Soling. He advised that Star events should not be scheduled during Soling events since this will probably decrease the amount of participants in the Star events. Mr. Simoneschi stated that the members really need to be kept informed of the Class' efforts to regain Olympic status.

9.0 Delegate's Report -- Douglas Smith

Douglas Smith reported that he will be checking on getting the Star Class trademark registered worldwide. He also stated that the incorporation is still in the hands of the United States Internal Revenue Service.

10.0 International Governing Committee Report -- Jack Rickard, Chairman

Jack Rickard reported that at their September 1997 meeting the International Governing Committee (IGC) will have to make a final decision on whether to hold the 1999 World Championship in Australia or to choose another venue. Other venues that would have a higher amount of participants were discussed as possibilities (Bermuda, Annapolis, Punta Ala).

Kim Fletcher suggested, and all agreed, that a recommendation be given to the IGC to increase the dues for an isolated boat-owner to US \$50 to become effective in January 1998. Mr. Rickard requested that the Administrative Committee consider the current dues structure and let him know if they have any recommendations for it.

Mr. Rickard reminded everyone how important it is to get all the proposed resolutions that have been discussed in the past year written and submitted to the Central Office by the deadline date. 8 May 1997.

10.1 Nomination of International Governing Committee Members

Dierk Thomsen had discussed this briefly in his report [see section 3.6, paragraph 3]. He stated that his fleet will submit a resolution to allow district officers to be nominated as IGC members. Passage of this resolution will increase the amount of members that are eligible to serve on the IGC.

11.0 Measurement Committee Report -- John Koopman, Chairman

11.1 Introduction of John Koopman

Dierk Thomsen introduced John Koopman as the new Measurement Committee Chairman and Chief Measurer. Mr. Koopman gave a brief review of his background and his experience with measurement of various classes, including the Star Class. He advised that he has received items from and worked together with former Chief Measurer Joe Knowles, who will remain on the Measurement Committee. Mr. Koopman commented that Mr. Knowles was very well organized so the transition has been smooth. He also stated that he has been looking over the Star Class Rules and may suggest some clarifications in the future

to help make the measurement procedure more easy to understand. Mr. Thomsen thanked him for accepting the position.

12.0 Technical Committee Report -- William Buchan, Chairman

12.1 Weight Proposal and Sail Amendments: Summary of Comments

William Buchan reported on the research on the sail amendment proposals. He advised that the Technical Committee is prepared to support a top batten with no length limit and the bottom three battens with a maximum of five feet. Due to concern about the convex curvature of the top of the jibs and mainsails, a control measurement for the jib at about 100 mm from the top is suggested for inclusion in the resolution. For the mainsails, Mr. Buchan advised reducing the 3/4 girth to an amount that still needs to be determined. He added two other items for the upcoming resolutions: 1) allowing longer jib battens and 2) removing restrictions on the reinforcements.

Discussion followed as to how the resolutions should be submitted. Suggestions were made to submit separate resolutions instead of as a package and to include a sunset clause in each resolution. Mr. Buchan advised that the Puget Sound Fleet will submit the resolutions.

Mr. Buchan continued with a summary of all of the responses to the weight issue that were sent in to the Central Office. He reviewed the weight proposals of Alex Hagen and Bruce Nelson, distributing graphs to illustrate these proposals. [Please refer to attachments for 12.1.] The Gluecksburger Fleet will submit Alexander Hagen's weight proposal resolution.

Dierk Thomsen stressed the importance that the fleets need to make sure that all of the resolutions are passed at the annual meeting so that they will go on the ballot this year. If all of the resolutions get on the ballot, all of the Star Class members that are eligible to vote can make the final decision as to which rule changes they want.

13.0 Marketing Committee Report -- Gary MacDonald, Chairman

Gary MacDonald was unable to attend the meeting.

13.1 Progress Report: Internet

Dierk Thomsen reviewed how the Star Class home page was initially set up and maintained by David McCreary who has also done set-up and maintenance for many of the other classes via the ISAF. Since the Star Class home page has been inactive since the 1996 Olympics, Gary MacDonald has recommended that the Star Class look for another webmaster.

At Mr. McDonald's request, Ed Sprague put together a proposal for building a new web page using the services of Bytesize Studio. Mr. Sprague's proposal estimated a cost of US \$8000 for the initial set-up fee with a maintenance fee of US \$550 per month. Discussion was held regarding whether sponsorship could be obtained to cover the costs of a new website. The point was made that there are currently limited advertisers for the Starlights

and the LOG and the Internet could affect this advertising. A copy of the Bytesyze proposal that was not available at the meeting is attached.

13.2 Marketing Concept

Dierk Thomsen advised that he met with Peter Erzberger to discuss the marketing concept for the Star Class. More detailed information will be presented for discussion of this at the next meeting on 7 June 1997.

14.0 Regatta Management Committee Report -- Charles Cook, Chairman

14.1 Question on Star Class Rules Part 2

Charles Cook advised that the Judiciary Board approved, as clarifications, all the proposed changes to the Star Class Rules Part 2 that were necessary to conform to the new ISAF Racing Rules. He stated that he has written articles for the Starlights to help the members understand how the new ISAF Racing Rules affect the Star Class Rules.

14.2 Conflict between International Sailing Federation Rule 43 and Star Class Rules

Mr. Cook and Douglas Smith reviewed the issue raised by Joseph Bainton regarding the ISAF 10 kg rule on wet clothing. It is believed that this issue is now resolved.

14.3 Enforcement of Star Class Sailing Instructions

Mr. Cook advised that the Standard Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race have been revised to conform to the new ISAF Racing Rules and to eliminate the attention signal that is usually given five minutes before the warning, allowing one common starting system. The revised Standard Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race will be printed in the 1997 LOG.

Mr. Cook requested some financial assistance for transportation for one of the International Judges for the 1997 World Championship since it has been difficult to get sponsorship. His request was declined due to the fact that many cutbacks were made to the 1997 budget.

Mr. Cook was thanked for all of his hard work on adapting the Star Class Rules to the new ISAF Racing Rules.

15.0 Olympic Committee Report -- Hal Haenel, Chairman

Hal Haenel gave a brief overview of the tentative goals that this Olympic Committee will be focusing on for the future. He advised that he will help to coordinate the efforts to regain Olympic status for the Star. Mr. Haenel stated that, in addition to the efforts discussed earlier in the meeting [see section 3.3], the Star Class Olympic Committee will work on developing a lobbying strategy for the 2004 Olympics and will gather information that will be useful in this lobbying effort.

16.0 Sailing Committee Report -- Ross Macdonald, Chairman

16.1 Comments on Weight Proposal and Sail Amendments

Ross Macdonald was unable to attend the meeting; therefore, no commentary was given.

17.0 Secretary of Life & Isolated Members -- Harry Walker

Harry Walker announced the recent passing of Life members William Halsted and George Parsons. Hal Haenel and Ross Macdonald were approved as the next two Life members, provided they submit their application and dues to the Central Office. If they decline, the next persons on the waiting list (Robert Jan Staartjes and Ben Staartjes) are pre-approved with the same provision.

18.0 Editor's Report -- Shery Hughes

Shery Hughes submitted a written report that was read by Dierk Thomsen. [See attachment 18.0.]

18.1 Incorporation of Editor

The editor will not be incorporated since she is considered to be an independent contractor. Douglas Smith will make sure that the contract is signed and sent to the Central Office for the files.

18.2 1997 LOG

Refer to attachment 18.0.

18.3 New Design of Starlights

Dierk Thomsen had the new design set up on a disk by a company in Germany. This disk was given to Shery for the printers to produce the new look for Starlights.

19.0 Central Office Report

19.1 Situation for April to August 1997

19.2 Job Description

Dierk Thomsen advised that the voting members of the Administrative Committee discussed the above items at their breakfast meeting. He stated that he will talk to Diane Dorr about the above two items at a later time.

Diane Dorr reported that the new system for membership and collecting dues has been working very well. Dues are arriving sooner and updates to the computer database are processed more quickly. There are currently 45 fleets that have not yet paid their dues or sent in any information.

BUSINESS ITEMS

20.0 Old Business

20.1 Stars at Mystic Seaport Museum

Harry Walker gave an update on the maintenance of the two Stars on display at Mystic Seaport Museum, "ACE" and "CETI", Star # 7, the oldest Starboat known.

21.0 New Business

21.1 Inclusion of Masters Regatta in the LOG

Harry Walker requested that the Masters Regatta, held in Miami for the past 13 years, be included in the LOG, beginning with the 1998 LOG. This request was unanimously approved. Mr. Walker and James Schoonmaker will provide the details of the past Masters Regattas.

22.0 Next Meeting

Saturday, 7 June 1997 -- New York Yacht Club, New York, New York, USA

Future meetings:

Thursday, 4 September 1997 -- Eastern Yacht Club, Marblehead, Massachusetts, USA

Saturday, 17 January 1998 -- ISCYRA Central Office, Glenview, Illinois, USA

23.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.