

INTERNATIONAL STAR CLASS YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION
OF THE CLASS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
WILMETTE, ILLINOIS, USA -- 31 JANUARY & 1 FEBRUARY, 1998

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on 31 January 1998 by President Riccardo Simoneschi.

Present were:

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Committee Chairmen</u>	<u>In Attendance</u>
Riccardo Simoneschi, Chairman	John Koopman (MC)	Jack Rickard, IGC Chairman
Jochen Schwarz	Charles Cook (RMC)	Hans-Otto Engel, Continental VP
Harry W. Walker	Hal Haenel (OC)	Karen McLane
Rob Maine	(Sunday only)	
Douglas D. Smith, Delegate		
Daniel Wyss, Delegate		

All in attendance were welcomed with thanks for changing their plans to be in Chicago while the Olympic situation unfolded.

2.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

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

The minutes of the 4 September 1997 Class Management Committee meeting in Marblehead, Massachusetts, USA were approved.

3.0 President's Report -- Riccardo Simoneschi

3.1 Activity Report -- Dierk Thomsen [Attachment]

Past President, Dierk Thomsen, was unable to attend this meeting. His activity report is attached. President Simoneschi expressed his thanks to Dierk for all of his help.

3.2 Results of the 1997 Ballot [Attachment]

All 1997 for 1998 Resolutions passed except for Resolution #19, the Hagen weight proposal, and Resolution #20 banning crewwise-hiking for skippers. A majority of the Class members voting on the weight proposal were in favor of it, but the resolution lacked the two-thirds majority required by Star Class rules to pass. A copy of the changes to the rules as they will appear in the 1998 LOG is attached.

3.4 IOC Decision on the 11th Medal

The order of the agenda was changed in order for Fernando Bolin's e-mail from Nagano, Japan to be read announcing that the Star had been awarded the 11th medal for the 2000 Olympics to the delight of the Class Management Committee members.

3.3 Statement by Riccardo Simoneschi

President Simoneschi made a computer presentation "Innovation Within Tradition" to provoke thoughts among Class Management Committee members. Included in his presentation were goals and objectives for the future of the Class with special emphasis on the key words of membership, awareness, relationship, organization, and boat with identification of the tools necessary to reach these goals.

3.5 Contract with ISAF

The ISAF sends a standard agreement to all Olympic classes. In 1996, President Thomsen re-wrote the agreement, signed it, and sent it to the ISAF.

Discussion:

- ! National Letter Codes -- A resolution is needed to add to Specification 12.1 allowing national letters on mainsails.
- ! Advertising -- A resolution is needed to allow advertising in accordance with RRS Appendix G with IGC approval for events to be designated as a Category B or C event.
- ! Wild Card entries by Member National Authorities -- A resolution is needed to allow each ISAF Member National Authority one entry to a Star Class World Championship.

Decision:

- ! *Charley Cook will draft the above three resolutions for US and European fleets to present to the Class for a vote.*
- ! *A letter will be sent to Paul Henderson stating that the Star Class will honor the 1996 agreement signed by Dierk Thomsen with a copy to Iain Macdonald-Smith noting that the above resolutions are pending approval by Star Class members.*

3.6 Perpetual Trophies of the Star Class -- Rob Maine

Rob Maine has spoken with Class member, Gene McCarthy, regarding insurance for Star Class trophies. Insuring the trophies is not a problem. All trophies need to be appraised to determine the amount of insurance required. Should winners take the trophies with them or should the Class take responsibility for them? If the trophies are shipped and become the responsibility of the Class, a shipping budget will need to be allocated.

Discussion:

- ! Harry Walker presented the idea of loaning Class trophies to Mystic Seaport Museum with a secure, fireproof, and burglar-proof display case built allowing museum visitors to see the beautiful and historic Star Class trophies.
- ! Alternative "keeper" trophies were discussed. A photographic or etched representation of the trophy in an appropriate frame was mentioned.
- ! Host clubs may appreciate "keeper" trophies provided by and purchased from the Class.

Decision:

- ! *Harry Walker will pursue his ideas with J. Revell Carr of Mystic Seaport Museum.*
- ! *A task force will be formed to consider "keeper" trophies.*
- ! *The World Championship trophy will always travel to the site of the World Championship.*

3.7 Approval of Committee Members for 1998 [Attachment]

President Simoneschi's goal was to form good committees with people he feels he can work with. Since it is the most important committee for the Star Class, he will temporarily serve as chairman of the Marketing Committee. A press relations position will be established on the Marketing Committee to promote the Class.

Discussion:

- ! Charley Cook would like to add two more names to the Regatta Management Committee.

Decision:

- ! *Charley Cook will add two more names to his committee.*
- ! *All names to the 1998 committees list were approved.*

4.0 Vice-President's Report -- James Schoonmaker

Ding Schoonmaker was unable to attend the meeting as he was present at the Olympic Classes Regatta in Miami. His report was read by President Simoneschi.

His question regarding Star 7893, built by Sinless, was addressed by Chief Measurer, John Koopman. The plans and specifications for this boat were approved by the Technical Committee prior to his tenure as chairman of the Measurement Committee. At the 1997 Star Worlds in Marblehead, 35 lbs. of corrector weights were discovered in the bilge. The rudder and skeg were also not in compliance. Thickness measurements were taken of the boat laminates which compared favorably to laminate samples and construction drawings. In the future, all boats built by this builder will be under review ensuring that Star Class rules are followed. [Note: The Sinless boat will now be built at the Lillia boatyard.]

President Simoneschi expressed his concern regarding the overlapping of dates of the 1998 North American Championship and the 1998 Star World Championship.

Decision: Rob Maine will contact the regatta of the 1998 North American Championship to discuss changing the dates in September, 1998.

5.0 Vice-President's Report -- Jochen Schwarz

With participation down at the District and Fleet level, events need to be attractive with a schedule that makes traveling to various events easy for participants and cost effective. Organization for the European Spring Championship in Monaco is well underway with a need for good regatta management help. Kiel is a good site for the European Championship.

Questions have been asked about the changes to the rules regarding the sail plan. A clarifying statement from the Technical Committee is needed stating that the new rule became effective January 1, 1998 and that old sails are still valid. A new sail plan will be produced prior to the Bacardi Cup with sail measurement procedures following ISAF measurement procedures.

A new fleet, the Birka Fleet, in the 10th District has asked for charter ratification.

5.1 Unpaid Entry Fees [Attachment]

Uwe van Below's letter to Martin Corin was read regarding the non-payment of entry fees by regatta participants.

Discussion:

- ! Regatta organizers could collect entry fees by use of a credit card.
- ! Payment of entry fees could be done by credit card through the Central Office as a service to regatta organizers.

Decision: Discussion tabled until new Central Office computers are working and an evaluation of whether or not this is feasible has been completed.

5.2 1998 and 1999 European Junior Championships

The 1998 Junior Championship will be sailed in the heart of the lakes area. The 1999 Junior Championship will be held in Thunersee. [Note: Junior Championships in the United States will probably be held every other year.]

6.0 Secretary's Report -- Harry Walker

Harry Walker reported that everything is fine. He has been sending information such as "reports from the cockpit" and photographs to the editor.

7.0 Treasurer's Report -- Rob Maine

7.1 Review of December Financial Statement [Attachment]

7.2 1998 Budget [Attachment]

Carine Acks, Star Class bookkeeper, prepared the 1998 budget with comments and changes proposed by past Treasurer, Kim Fletcher. A list of assumptions made by Carine was read [Attachment].

Discussion:

- ! Payment of dues to US Sailing allows the Class to purchase regatta insurance.
- ! Star Class securities are doing well. Historically, the Class holds onto its stocks.
- ! Assumption of sale of sail royalties increased.
- ! Depreciation adjusted to reflect the purchase of new computers for the Central Office.
- ! Starlights revenue and expenses: The Notice of Race and entry forms are a fundamental service to members. Regatta organizers should not be charged for this service. Re-structure what appears in Starlights, i.e. articles of interest, editorials, etc. with regatta results reported on the internet. Publish quarterly instead of monthly. Distribute Starlights via e-mail to slash mailing costs.
- ! Sponsorship agreements, i.e. Citizen Watch and Sperry.
- ! Computer equipment: add as a line item expense every few years to keep equipment current.

Decision:

- ! *Motion passed to drop fees for Notice of Race and entry form in Starlights for Gold and Silver Star events. Regatta organizers will be charged for any ads placed in Starlights.*
- ! *1998 budget approved.*

8.0 Delegate's Report -- Daniel Wyss

Daniel Wyss made a brief report on the 9th District.

9.0 Delegate's Report -- Douglas Smith

9.1 Worldwide Trade Mark Registration

Applications have been filed in other significant countries outside the United States.

9.2 Incorporation of the Star Class in the USA

A letter from the Internal Revenue Service is expected by March 31, 1998

identifying the Star Class as a 501 (c) (3) corporation.

Insurance to cover Class officers in the event of a lawsuit was discussed with a motion passed to purchase this insurance at the cost of \$1,000 per year.

A brief history of the Star Class suit against Tommy Hilfiger was presented. The Court has ruled that "Star Class" is a protectable trademark. No damages have been awarded to date. The protection of intellectual property gives better value to potential sponsors.

10.0 International Governing Committee Report -- Jack Rickard, Chairman

10.1 Venues for the 1999 and 2001 Star World Championships

An e-mail from Tom Stephenson, event director for the 1999 World Sailing Championships, was read asking the Star Class to re-consider the site for the 1999 Star World Championship by returning the venue to Melbourne since the IOC has reinstated the Star to the 2000 Olympics.

Discussion:

- ! Change Punta Ala from 1999 to 2001 with 1999 Star Worlds in Melbourne.
- ! ISAF would like the Star Class to participate in the 1999 event.
- ! Keep 1999 Star World Championship in Punta Ala due to high cost and possible poor participation in Melbourne.
- ! Ask Punta Ala to change dates to avoid conflict with Olympic test event in September, 1999

Decision: The Class Management Committee advises the IGC to keep the 1999 Star World Championship in Punta Ala, Italy asking for a change of date to not overlap with the Olympic test event. Suggested dates: prior to September 16, 1999.

11.0 Measurement Committee Report -- John Koopman, Chairman

John Koopman reported on the ISO standard for safety and stability that he has been studying for two months as it applies to the Star and to the Etchells. These regulations, as promoted by the governments of the European Union, are very flawed and would eliminate sailboat racing as we know it. His recommendation to the ISAF is to fight this bad legislation. The question was asked about the consequence of non-compliance. If the regulations are ignored and you sail in winds over 14 kts. and break your mast, insurance coverage would be denied. A suggestion was made to involve other keelboat classes in fighting this legislation.

The agreement with ISAF, as signed in 1996, relieves measurement difficulties. Changing the band location on the mast and boom will make measurement easier and less confusing.

Prior to the 1998 Star World Championship, Mr. Koopman will visit the Folli, Lillia, and Mader boat yards.

12.0 Technical Committee Report -- William Buchan, Chairman

Bill Buchan was unable to attend the meeting. John Koopman will contact him regarding changes to the sail plan.

13.0 Marketing Committee Report -- Riccardo Simoneschi, Chairman

13.1 Progress Report: Internet

Problems still exist with the transfer of the domain name to Star Class webmaster, David McCreary. The website now has a forum for Class members to leave ideas and suggestions and to exchange information. All important LOG information has been posted; but the problem with posting race results remains.

Discussion:

- ! Many Class members do not have internet access. The suggestion was made to contact America Online or Compuserve to offer a special six month free service to Class members to bring them online.
- ! Post all results on the website.

Decision: A task force will decide which race results will be published in Starlights and be posted on the website.

13.2 Class Merchandise

President Simoneschi reported on a two year agreement with SLAM. The Star Class will receive 10 - 12 % of what SLAM sells. For their ads in Starlights, shipping will be included in the price of the merchandise. SLAM will support the Star Class in the production of a European video.

Discussion:

- ! How is this agreement different from the agreement with Citizen Watch?
- ! SLAM has a royalty agreement with the Star Class and will be the official supplier to the Star Class offering two lines of merchandise: one line for Class members as sold in the LOG featuring the Star Class logo; another line for the public with different merchandise and a 10% royalty paid to the Class.
- ! The Class needs two companies for Class merchandise: one for Europe and one for the US.

Decision: The worldwide agreement with SLAM should go forward.

Class merchandise stocked by the Central Office was discussed.

- ! Can the Central Office re-stock items as the need arises?
- ! Encourage fleet secretaries to purchase Class merchandise for prizes.
- ! The suggestion was made that Silver Star winners receive a Silver Star tie at awards

ceremonies.

Decision: The Central Office can re-stock merchandise as needed with a permanent reduction in price on the History of the Star Class and on jacket patches.

13.3 Licensing Agreement to Build Radio-Controlled Star Boats (microSail!) -- Doug Smith

Doug Smith reported on the agreement between the Star Class and microSail! to build radio-controlled Star boats. The contract is for five years with the Star Class receiving 10% of the retail price of \$1,200. microSail! agrees to sell four boats per year or the agreement is withdrawn.

Decision: A motion to accept the contract with microSail! was passed.

14.0 Regatta Management Committee Report -- Charles Cook, Chairman

14.1 Report on 1998 World Championship at Portoroz

President Simoneschi and Charley Cook (if available) will travel to Portoroz in February to visit the site for the 1998 Star World Championship and consult with the regatta organizer.

14.2 Entry into Worlds and Olympic Qualification Rules

The Measurement and Technical Committees will indicate on the official Star Class sail plan where national letter codes and Star boat numbers will be affixed.

Wild Card entries by Member National Authorities (MNA) were discussed with the following three options:

1. MNA to nominate a Star Class fleet member.
2. MNA to nominate a sailor who has not competed in a fleet or district championship.
3. MNA to nominate a sailor who did not qualify in a fleet or district championship.

Discussion:

- ! Keep strength in fleets by qualifying through fleets.
- ! Countries are qualified -- not the sailor.
- ! Isolated membership solves qualification of smaller countries.
- ! Wild Cards will add 5 - 6 more boats to the Star World Championship.

Decision: Charley Cook will prepare a submission regarding Wild Cards for Star Class members to decide by vote providing that Wild Card entries meet all other eligibility requirements including Star Class membership.

Discussion of Category B advertising at Star World Championship:

- ! Only the IGC can decide if Category B advertising will be allowed at Star World Championships.
- ! Star Class events will never allow Category C advertising.
- ! Delete STCR 40.4 through 40.7 with only STCR 40.5 in effect.

14.2 Discussion of Jury for 1998 World Championship

Discussion of members of the Jury for the 1998 World Championship was tabled to the next CMC meeting in Miami after the ISAF decides what will be required of this Olympic qualifying event. A race management consultant may be required.

14.4 Review and Approve Model Sailing Instructions and Course Diagrams for 1998

No substantial changes have been made. The sailing instructions allow for the 720 rule; and the issue of the black flag rule has been addressed. Minor changes have been made to the course diagrams allowing the Race Committee the option of offset marks and gates.

Discussion:

- ! At the next CMC meeting in Miami, discuss sailing long courses in the 2000 Olympics.
- ! Ask the Sailing Committee to provide input about deleting windward/leeward courses; telling regatta organizers if the wind is over "x", sail a triangle course.
- ! Since decisions will be made in May, 1998, advise the Format Working Party what kind of courses the Star would like to sail, i.e. long courses, triangle courses, fewer races.

15.0 Olympic Committee Report -- Hal Haenel, Chairman

Fifteen (15) countries will compete in the 2000 Olympics with one entry from Australia leaving fourteen (14) countries to qualify. ISAF receives 2% allowing six or seven countries to qualify from the 1998 and 1999 Star World Championships.

Decision: Charley Cook will seek clarification for the number of qualifiers from each of these two events.

The 2004 Olympic Games are 34 months away. The decision for equipment will be decided in November, 1998 with a limited number of ISAF meetings between now and then.

Discussion:

- ! Work for the 2004 Games begins now.
- ! The Star Class will host a party in Palma De Mallorca with a limited guest list.

Decision: A guest list will be prepared by the next CMC meeting in Miami.

16.0 Sailing Committee Report -- Albert Schweizer, Chairman

Albert Schweizer was unable to attend the meeting. His letter was read. [Attachment]

17.0 Secretary of Life & Isolated Members -- Harry Walker

Harry Walker reported that everything is fine and has prepared a letter to Life and Isolated members.

18.0 Editor's Report -- Shery Hughes [Attachment]

Shery Hughes was unable to attend the meeting. Her report was read.

18.1 Situation Regarding Shery Hughes

Editor Shery Hughes has resigned effective May, 1998.

Discussion:

! It may be desirable to find a new editor who resides close to the Central Office.

! Potential candidates will be asked to provide a proposal and samples of their work.

18.2 1998 Directory

Decision: Postpone production of a 1998 Directory until a new editor has been chosen.

18.3 Publication of Notice of Race and Entry Forms in Starlights

Decision: For AA and A Events, no charge will be made for the publication of the Notice of Race and the entry form in Starlights.

Other topics discussed:

! President Simoneschi would like his President's message printed in English, Italian, and German. Agreed.

! New editor must be computer literate. Establish a task force to determine guidelines for Starlights.

19.0 Central Office Report -- Karen McLane

19.1 New Job Description

Discussion postponed to March meeting.

Other topics for consideration:

- ! Task force to look at composition of Districts and Fleets.
- ! Consider electing District officers every two years.
- ! Consider a Family membership category.

BUSINESS ITEMS

20.0 Old Business

20.1 Qualification Process for Future AA and A Championships

Decision: Establish a task force to look at the qualification process to AA and A events as currently presented in Star Class Rules.

Task forces to prepare preliminary information for the March CMC meeting:

- ! Trophies: Harry Walker and Rob Maine
- ! Internet: Rick Brethorst (District 4)
- ! Starlights: Riccardo Simoneschi
- ! Country, District, and National Authorities: Jochen Schwarz, Hans-Otto Engel, and Daniel Wyss
- ! Qualification to Star Worlds: Albert Schweizer, Tom Londrigan. Jr., Foss Miller, and Jack Rickard

21.0 New Business

21.1 Perpetual Crew Trophy

Hal Haenel presented the idea of issuing a perpetual crew trophy in memory of Chuck Lewsadder.

22.0 Next Meeting

Saturday, 14 March 1998 -- Coral Reef Yacht Club, Miami, Florida, USA
June, 1998 -- ?

23.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 1, 1998.

Respectfully submitted by Karen McLane