

INTERNATIONAL STAR CLASS YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS, USA -- 6 SEPTEMBER 1996

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by President Dierk Thomsen.

Present were:

Voting Members

Dierk Thomsen
Harry Walker

Non-Voting Members

William Buchan (TC)
Joseph Knowles (MC)

Committee Chairmen

Jack Rickard (IGC)
Ross Macdonald (SC)

In Attendance

John MacCausland
William Parks
Shery Hughes
Diane Dorr
Carine Acks

2.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

15 June 1996, Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, Connecticut, USA

The minutes of the 15 June 1996 Administrative Committee meeting in Mystic, CT, USA could not be approved at this meeting since there were not enough voting members in attendance. The 15 June 1996 meeting minutes were approved as written by the voting members of the Administrative Committee via fax after the meeting.

3.0 President's Report -- Dierk Thomsen

Dierk Thomsen gave a report of his activities for the Star Class since the last meeting. He reviewed the discussions that he had with representatives of many of the national sailing federations and officials from the International Sailing Federation (formerly the International Yacht Racing Union) at the 1996 Olympics in Savannah. Dierk stated that, on the way home from the Olympics, he was able to stop in Boston to visit Eastern Yacht Club in Marblehead, the venue of the 1997 World Championship. Dierk met with Marketing Committee Chairman Gary MacDonald, Regatta Committee Chairman Charley Cook, and Regatta Chairman Tim Hunt. They discussed the 1997 World Championship, the Notice of Race and the new Racing Rules that the International Sailing Federation will publish in the near future.

Dierk described the German and Dutch Championship and the European Championship (both took place in Medemblik, Netherlands) in which he was able to participate. He stated that the top three places in the European Championship were won by sailors from Denmark, Italy and Norway. Dierk observed that many of the participants were young which is very good for the future of the Star Class.

Dierk reported that he has been overseeing the work at the Central Office with contacts via phone, fax, and e-mail and found no special problems. He also had to make a quick decision with the editor of the LOG and Starlights to change the company that handled the printing of the Star Class publications.

3.1 Mystic Seaport Museum

Dierk described some of the tour that Mystic Seaport Director J. Revell Carr gave the Administrative Committee after the 15 June 1996 meeting ended. Star # 7 is there, patiently waiting to be restored. Dierk expressed a strong desire to see it be restored and displayed in the near future. He will stay in contact with J. Revell Carr about Star # 7.

Dierk stated that we would like to present Mystic Seaport Museum with a wooden half-hull model of the Star. Joe Knowles reviewed the research he had done on some wooden half-hulls. He found a man that does good quality work and charges reasonable prices. It was decided that two of these wooden half-hulls would be ordered from him. One would be presented to Mystic Seaport Museum in appreciation for maintaining our archives and for the hospitality its staff showed the Administrative Committee during the meeting in June. The other half-hull would be viewed at the next meeting to determine if this product is suitable for use as Star Class trophies.

3.2 Reception in Brighton

Dierk advised that the cocktail reception for the International Sailing Federation will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 November 1996. A reception hall has been booked at the Brighton Metropole Hotel. Dierk and Vice-Presidents Uwe von Below and James (Ding) Schoonmaker made up the invitation list when they met in Savannah

4.0 Vice-President's Report -- James Schoonmaker

James (Ding) Schoonmaker was unable to attend the meeting.

4.1 District 19 (Venezuela)

Dierk Thomsen stated that District 19 currently has no paid members for 1996. Last year, there were three paid members. It was suggested that these three members be invited to become Isolated members. A letter has been sent to all three members asking if each still plans to continue their Star Class membership. No response has been received at this time.

4.2 Citizen Watch Agreement

John MacCausland questioned what amount of the Citizen Watch money will be given to the organizers of the 1997 North American Championship. Decision on this was tabled until the next meeting when enough voting members could be present.

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

Uwe von Below was unable to attend the meeting but faxed a written report to the Central Office. Uwe's report stated that the 1996 European Spring and 1996 European Championships were very good and interesting. The 1998 European Spring Championship will be sailed in Monaco and the 1998 European Championship will be held in Kiel. The dates for the 1998 European Championship in Kiel are 20 -- 29 August 1998. Exact dates for the 1998 European Spring Championship are not determined at this time.

Uwe sent a fax to announce that the 1997 European Youth Championship will be sailed over four days in the first week in August 1997 (exact dates to be decided) on Starnberger See, Germany. The organizer of this Championship is the Munchner Yacht Club [see attachment 5.0, page 2 for the address, phone and fax numbers].

In his written report, Uwe also submitted a proposal for handling the weight issue. Please refer to attachment 5.0, page 1, to review Uwe's proposal.

6.0 Secretary's Report -- Harry Walker

Harry Walker reported that there were no problems at the Central Office.

7.0 Treasurer's Report -- Kim Fletcher

Kim Fletcher was unable to attend the meeting.

7.1 Review of Preliminary August Financial Statement

Dierk Thomsen and Jack Rickard reviewed the preliminary August Financial Statement for Kim Fletcher. Jack commented that revenue from boat taxes and sail royalties will probably be slow for the rest of the year since the World Championship and the Olympic regatta have already been sailed. He stated that our basic income is declining at this time, and we should be careful with spending for the remainder of the year. The preliminary August Financial Statement was approved by written poll after the meeting.

7.2 Internal Revenue Service Audit for 1994

Jack reported that he had a meeting with the Star Class' accountants regarding the US Internal Revenue Service audit for the ISCYRA's 1994 tax return. The US Internal Revenue Service questioned two items: 1) the employment status of the editor, Richard L. Munson, and 2) the wording of the policy of the Class as stated in Star Class Rule 4. The accountants advised that the current editor of the Star Class publications should incorporate. The accountants wrote a response letter to the US Internal Revenue Service based on their discussion with Jack. Jack advised that no other action is needed at this time.

7.3 ISCYRA Credit Card Proposal

Dierk postponed discussion of this until the next meeting. Dierk will contact Job Sandberg, Vice-President of the Flying Dutchman Class, to get more information on the benefits of setting up a Star Class credit card and the income it could generate.

8.0 Delegate's Report -- Fernando Pombo

Fernando Pombo was unable to attend the meeting. No report was submitted.

At this time, Dierk advised that several districts did not submit any nominations for district officers. The Central Office will contact the current district secretaries of these districts to request that nominations be submitted to decrease the amount of blanks on the ballot.

9.0 Delegate's Report -- Douglas Smith

Douglas Smith was unable to attend the meeting, but submitted a verbal report to Dierk Thomsen.

9.1 Hilfiger Trademark Litigation

Dierk Thomsen, Jack Rickard and John MacCausland reviewed the history and current status of this litigation. Doug Smith will stay in contact with J. Joseph Bainton who is handling the case and will inform the Administrative Committee of new developments.

10.0 International Governing Committee Report -- Jack Rickard, Chairman

10.1 Next Meeting

Jack Rickard stated that the next International Governing Committee meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, 9 November 1996 at the Brighton Metropole Hotel.

10.2 Class Dues and Fees

Discussion was held on what the dues should be for 1997. Dierk stated that a suggestion was made at the June Administrative Committee meeting to increase the Active member dues to 50 USD and the Associate member dues to 25 USD. Consensus of those present was to recommend the following 1997 dues costs to the International Governing Committee:

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--------|
| ! | Active member | 50 USD |
| ! | Associate member | 25 USD |
| ! | Isolated boat-owning member | 30 USD |
| ! | Isolated non-boat-owning member | 25 USD |

The International Governing Committee will decide the price of the 1997 dues at its next meeting on 9 November 1996.

The price of the new 1996 directory was set at 15 USD which includes shipping costs. The decision on whether to change the current fees for sail royalties, boat taxes, and duplicate measurement certificates was tabled until the next Administrative Committee meeting.

Jack requested input on alternative penalties to bring before the International Governing Committee. Ross Macdonald advised that he has input from the sailors on this in his report (see section 16).

11.0 Measurement Committee Report -- Joseph Knowles, Chairman

11.1 Olympic Measurement Report

Joe Knowles reported that 25 Stars were measured at the Olympics. As a result of comments made to him at the Olympics, Joe presented the following items for discussion and possible action:

- ! A Hungarian representative stated that sailors could be arrested for displaying a red star on their boat in their country. Joe suggested that a request be made to the Judiciary Board to allow red star modification in countries that face this problem. Consensus of those present was to handle this situation on a fleet level.
- ! The use of pants with battens was questioned. Joe remembered that the Technical Committee had made a ruling on this in 1989. After obtaining a copy of the ruling (see attachment 11.1), Joe handed this out in Savannah and the issue was settled. Joe stated that this ruling should be included in the Star Class Rules.
- ! The issue of handholds on the foredeck was discussed. Joe, on behalf of the Measurement Committee, requested that the Technical Committee define handholds and whether they are a permanent part of the boat.

11.2 Sail Head Measurement on Sail Plan

Dierk Thomsen asked if the sail head measurement on the sail plan is now clear to the sailmakers and measurers. Joe stated that the sail plan can be left as it is at this time. Joe asked to have the opportunity to look at the sail plan when new sail resolutions come out so that he can be sure that any changes made are still measurable.

11.3 Visit to European Boat Builders in 1996

It was decided that Joe would not visit the European boat builders in 1996. Dierk Thomsen and Harry Walker thought that it would be better to plan this trip for the springtime of 1997. This will be discussed further at the next Administrative Committee meeting.

Joe announced that Glenn Read has begun to build boats in Australia. He is awaiting approval from the Technical Committee so that he may be assigned a boat number.

12.0 Technical Committee Report -- William Buchan, Chairman

12.1 Crew Weight Issue

Dierk Thomsen presented a proposal for handling the weight issue that was submitted by Alexander Hagen (see attachment 12.1, page 1). He stated that Alexander has written this

and is requesting the opinion of any other Star sailors that would like to comment on it. Dierk advised that this proposal will appear in the November Starlights to give everyone a chance to read it and comment on it. Dierk provided copies of the equipment lists from the 1996 Olympics and the 1996 European Championship (attachment 12.1, pages 2 and 3) to show how many crews would be considered overweight using Alexander Hagen's weight formula. Discussion was held regarding the proposals to help resolve the weight issue.

Ross Macdonaid reported that he had discussions with all of the members of the Sailing Committee and all of the Star skippers in the Olympics and all agreed that weight should be limited, but not as flat weight. They felt that heavier skippers should not be excluded from sailing and that Alexander Hagen's proposal would still allow heavier skippers to sail. Ross stated that it would be wise to have a time limit on any weight ruling that is attempted. Ross listed some of the benefits of using a weight proposal like Alexander's -- 1) easier for a skipper to find a crew for any regatta, 2) not as restrictive for those who want to be crews, and 3) more members will join the Star Class.

12.2 Sail Amendment Resolutions

Harry Walker questioned what happened to the sail amendment resolutions. Bill Buchan advised that more study needs to be done on the sail amendments. Jack Rickard stated that something needs to be done about the sail area and the crew weight. After a brief discussion, it was decided to publish the sail amendment resolutions together with the crew weight proposal in the November Starlights.

12.3 Test Sails

Dierk Thomsen reported that Albert Schweizer is making one set of sails for the European sailors to test in various locations in Europe. Bill Buchan advised that he ordered two sets of sails so that it would be easier to make comparisons and he will be testing them soon. It was decided that all reports will be summarized in May 1997 to prepare a report for the International Governing Committee and the annual meeting at Marblehead.

13.0 Marketing Committee Report -- Gary MacDonald, Chairman

Gary MacDonald was unable to attend the meeting, but faxed in a written report (see attachment 13.0) and discussed the following items with Dierk.

13.1 Marketing Forum

Dierk stated that he and Gary decided to postpone the marketing forum since the members that responded with ideas were not able to come to the forum. Gary is planning to send a letter to all of the fleet secretaries to try to gather ideas for marketing and helping the growth of the Star Class.

13.2 Internet

Dierk reported that Gary is looking into involving Star Class members to help make the Star Class home page more interesting. The Star Class may want to consider sponsorship of its home page in the future. Dierk advised that Editor Shery Hughes now has an e-mail address so some parts of the Starlights can be put on the Star Class website.

13.3 Advertisements in Finnfare and Laser World

Dierk stated that Gary is working on writing Star Class articles that will appear in the Finnfare and Laser World publications.

14.0 Regatta Management Committee Report -- Charles Cook, Chairman

Charles Cook was not able to attend the meeting No report was submitted.

14.1 New Racing Rules / Star Class Rules

Dierk advised that the rules governing Star Class events and racing refer to the International Yacht Racing Rules. Since the International Sailing Federation is in the process of changing these rules, the Star Class will need to change its rules accordingly. Dierk stated that one expert is needed to go over the Star Class rules and make the changes and then one person should check these changes. It is Dierk's opinion that Charley Cook should make the initial changes since he will be more familiar with the new International Yacht Racing Rules. Dierk stressed the fact that the Star Class rules should only be reworded to refer to the proper International Yacht Racing Rules.

15.0 Olympic Committee Report -- Dierk Thomsen, Chairman

15.1 Report on 1996 Olympics

Dierk Thomsen reviewed the 1996 Olympics in his President's report at the beginning of the meeting (see section 3.0). Both Dierk and Joe Knowles agreed that the Star crews at the 1996 Olympics reflected the internationality of the Star Class which puts a positive light on the future of the Class.

15.2 Olympic Classes for Sydney 2000

Dierk expressed his opinion that the outlook for the Star in the 2000 Olympics seems good at this time.

16.0 The Sailors' Voice Sailing Committee Report -- Ross MacDonald, Chairman

Ross Macdonald reported that he had collected opinions from the Sailing Committee members and other sailors on the following issues:

- ! weight limit -- Various ideas for attempting to resolve this issue were presented (see attachment 5.0, page 1, for Uwe von Below's idea and attachment 12.2, page 1 for

Alex reagent proposal). Weight limit was discussed previously (refer to section 12.1).

- ! 720 penalty rule -- Our rules should be changed to allow the 720 penalty. General opinion was that the Star Class should be more in line with what everyone else is doing.
- ! hiking pants with battens -- They should be allowed but should be regulated.
- ! milled keels -- Only cast keels should be allowed since milled keels are more expensive and would put those who could not afford one at a disadvantage.

17.0 Secretary of Life & Isolated Members -- Harry Walker

- 17.1 Consideration of Approval of Life Membership Application from David Wheeler
- 17.2 Consideration of Approval of Life Membership Application from Claude Bonanni
- 17.3 Consideration of Approval of Life Membership Application from Michael Thomas

Harry Walker reported that the Central Office received news of the passing of three Life members since the last meeting. The deceased Life members are Lawrence Low, Dr. Florus Black and Douglas Drennan. The decision to approve the Life membership applications from David Wheeler, Claude Bonanni and Michael Thomas was tabled until all the voting members could be contacted via written polls. David Wheeler, Claude Bonanni and Michael Thomas were approved by the Administrative Committee as the newest Life members via written polls.

17.4 General Policy for Isolated Members Residing Near Fleets

Harry advised that a letter was sent to all Isolated members to encourage them to join the fleet closest to them, if possible. Some of the responses Harry received were from older members who did not feel able to participate with a fleet and also pay the additional fleet dues. John MacCausland added that he has asked fleets to waive their fleet dues for the Isolated members to encourage them to join since this also helps the fleet with entries for the World Championship.

18.0 Editor's Report -- Shery Hughes

Shery Hughes was asked about the delays of the last two Starlights. She reported that everything is running smoothly with the company that mails the Starlights. The delays were caused by the former printer and the newly appointed printer. Shery will continue to work with the new printer to get the next Starlights out in a more timely manner. She advised that she is working on a plan for the next year of Starlights to make it more of an informational tool.

Shery stated that work on the 1997 LOG is already in progress. She and Dierk met yesterday to discuss methods to organize the LOG a little better and make some changes (i.e., a new typeface) to make it look a little more modern. Shery reported that the advertising letters were sent to everyone.

Shery asked how she should approach Citizen Watch regarding advertising. It was decided to offer them discounted advertising, but not exclusivity.

Dierk requested that the 1997 LOG be sent out on 1 April 1997. Shery responded that this was her target date.

18.1 Decision for Publishing Resolutions

Consensus of those present was that proposed resolutions be published in the Starlights as soon as possible after they are submitted to the Central Office. This will give all members a chance to read and offer comments on the resolution to the fleet that submitted the proposed amendment. Harry Walker agreed to work with Shery Hughes to make a standard form for the fleets to use when submitting their proposed resolutions. This form will facilitate publication in the Starlights.

19.0 Central Office Report

19.1 1996 ISCYRA Member Directory

The 1996 ISCYRA member directory was presented. Complimentary copies will be distributed to all Class Officers, Committee members, and Fleet Secretaries. Consensus of those present was to sell copies of the directory for 15 USD.

19.2 Late Fees for Late Membership Renewals

Diane Dorr reported that members who renew their membership late are costing the Class additional money because their LOGs are sent out individually. The mailing costs of the LOGs are much higher when the LOGs are not sent as part of a large group in the initial mailing. Discussion was held on whether to charge late fees to those who renew after the deadline in order to cover mailing costs. No decision was made. Fleet secretaries will be given an earlier deadline to pay dues for 1997 since the planned date for mailing the 1997 LOG is 1 April 1997.

BUSINESS ITEMS

20.0 Old Business

No old business was discussed.

21.0 New Business

No new business was brought forward for discussion.

22.0 Next Meeting

Saturday, 7 December 1996 at 9:30 a.m. -- (exact meeting place in downtown Chicago to be

determined), Chicago, IL, USA

23.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Dorr