



WORLD COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 24 AUGUST 2006

SUMMARY OF MEETING

The IMCA World Council met on Thursday 24 August in Hyeres for its annual general meeting. Present were representatives of the National Class Associations, members of the IMCA Executive Committee, the IMCA Technical Advisor and the IMCA Administrator.

National Class Reports

The National Class representatives presented reports about activities and growth in their countries and generally the picture is very positive with the majority of classes showing good growth in the past 12 months. In particular the Italian Class has seen a 25% increase in numbers this year to 65 boats and they anticipate another 15 boats next year. The USA also reported an increase in class activity during the past year despite the economic difficulties being experienced in the USA.

All nations reported good Corinthian participation in events and it was agreed that encouraging Corinthian participation in events and the development of local club fleets was vital to the continued growth of the class.

Financial Reports

Treasurer Quentin Strauss presented the accounts for the past year and the budget for the forthcoming year. He advised the meeting that income had been higher than anticipated in 2005/6 because of the timing of events during that period but warned that income could expect to be down in the coming 12 months as there were fewer major championships during the period and that the budget has been planned to accommodate this.

The question of the method of production and distribution for M24 magazine and the potential impact on the budget was discussed. The meeting agreed that it wished to move the magazine from a purely internal class publication to something reaching a wider audience and it was also agreed that the quality of the content should be changed to reflect this. To achieve this it was agreed that Joy Dunigan will be commissioned to handle editorial content as well as design of the 2007 edition. The financial impact of this decision was discussed and a minor revision to the budget was agreed.

The accounts were agreed and Henri Samuel (IMCA Chairman) thanked Quentin Strauss for his excellent work as Treasurer for the past 4 years.

Technical Report

David Chivers presented the technical report. He advised that it had been a relatively quiet year, but that the extensive discussions regarding the hiking rules had required a lot of extra work. Generally the class rules are working well, however, the considerable growth of the class in the past 12 months has results in an increase in the number of people who are not familiar with the class rules. Two new International Measurers, one based in France and one in the USA, are to be appointed (currently with ISAF for approval) to assist David in his work.

Class Rule Changes (effective 1st January 2007 once approved by ISAF)

The following rule changes were agreed:

NEW RULE C.2.1.7.

Boats shall comply with any special requirements of the MNA under which racing is being held or those set by the club or local marine authority.

NEW RULE C.3.7

A block may be added above the traveller cleat to assist tacking in light winds, or the traveller may be rigged in such a way as to be able to use a windward sheeting system of optional design, except that the mainsheet shall still be attached to the traveller car in the standard way.

NEW RULE C.3.11.

Fairings of any material may be used over blocks on deck to assist in the free running of sheets and control lines.

NEW RULE C.6.1.3.

The spreaders shall be connected through the mast by a licensed manufacturer's supplied spreader bar. This is part of the spreaders as per rule F.2.3.2. The spreader bar shall not be modified, or changed during a regatta.

NEW RULE C.6.1.4.

The mast shall be stepped on the standard mast step. No wedges or similar devices shall be used to control or alter the rake or bend characteristics of the rig.

NEW RULE C.6.1.5.

The mast shall be as supplied and assembled in accordance with the specification of the Licensed Manufacturer, except that small permanently attached shims may be used to correct misalignment.

NEW RULE C.6.3.3.

The bowsprit retraction line is optional. If not fitted, the bowsprit may be retracted by a knot in the spinnaker tack line. However, the requirements of class rule C.6.3.1 still apply. A second cleat may be added in the cockpit/deck for the tack line.

NEW RULE C.10.2

When the bowsprit is extended, the spinnaker shall be flying or in the process of being hoisted or dropped. The process of setting the spinnaker shall be a continuous operation without pauses.

NEW RULE C.10.6.

RRS42.3 (c) is modified to allow the spinnaker sheet to be trimmed without restrictions in all conditions.

NEW RULE C.10.7

When hiking facing outboard, the crews shall sit in such a way that the majority of their bottom/buttocks is in contact with the deck or deck edge.

NEW RULE C.10.8

When hiking facing outboard, the feet shall not be used on the deck, hull or gunwale edge as a means of extending the body further outboard than it would be when sitting on/against the deck

NEW RULE C.10.9

At no time shall the hiking lines be used to assist extending the body outboard by means other than the established method of leaning against them with the lines across the torso area. This includes, but is not limited to, hooking them behind the knees and using a sheet or similar as support.

NEW RULE C.3.20.

Non slip tape or similar non slip material may be applied to the deck and gunwale edge as necessary.

NEW RULE C.8.2. HULL (iii)

The cockpit may carry advertising chosen by the boat and is unrestricted in length.

NEW RULE C.8.2. BOOM

Advertising chosen by the boat may be displayed on the boom. The length is unrestricted. Different advertisers may be on each side of the boom.

NEW RULE F.2.3.1.

The following are permitted: mast head (crane) fitting, backstay batten, wind vane, sheaves and sheave boxes, tangs and T ball sockets, spreaders, spreader attachments, gooseneck, boom vang fitting, halyard cleats and line stowage cleats, custom mast foot, compass and brackets, mast alignment shims, protective cloth sleeves, vinyl tapes for mast bands, manufacturer labels, certification mark.

NEW RULE E.4.2.3.

A metal plate may be used to reinforce the transom behind the fittings for boats needing repair in this area. The plate shall not exceed 4mm in thickness.

NEW RULE F.2.3.2.

Spreaders, including the spreader bar, shall be supplied by the licensed manufacturer and shall be to the approved design.

NEW RULE F.2.3.3.

The mast shall be as supplied and assembled in accordance with the specification of the Licensed Manufacturer, except that small permanently attached shims may be used to correct misalignment.

Class Constitution Changes (Effective Immediately)

NEW 10.2

Each World Council Member shall have one (1) vote. In addition, each World Council Member appointed by an NMCA shall have one (1) vote for every five (5) boats owned by members of their respective NMCA and for which the IMCA has received and recorded appropriate dues paid. No NMCA shall ever be allowed to cast more than 42.5% of the total votes available at that meeting.

NEW 11.1.

The Chairman, the Vice Chairman and the Ordinary Members shall be elected for a period of two (2) years.

The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a period of three (3) years.

Officers may be elected for a second and final period in the same post. Under special circumstances, where there is a need for continuity and with the approval of the World Council, an Officer may serve one further term of one (1) year in the same post. Officers shall have one vote each on the World Council for all matters except the election of officers.

The period of office shall run from AGM to the following AGM.

NEW 16.1.1

Class rule change submissions shall be submitted to the secretary not later than 60 days before the AGM of the World Council. If passed by the Council, they will be submitted to ISAF for ratification by the appropriate committee on their rolling agenda. If ratified by the ISAF, they will be implemented as per 16.5.

NEW RULE 16.3.2.

A vote of the owners by ballot in writing, (accepted in the same forms as below), after presenting the resolution/motion in writing by mail, e-mail or by facsimile, when performance or investment is affected.

NEW 16.5.

Approved changes shall apply to all International events occurring on or after January 1 of the year following approval by ISAF, or earlier if deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

Election Of IMCA Executive Committee Officers

Vice Chairman Europe Nils Hauff, Vice Chairman North America Karen Gottwald, Member Europe Tomi Hakola and Treasurer Quentin Strauss had all completed their terms of office and were standing down at this AGM and Henri Samuel thanked them all for their hard work on behalf of the class.

Following elections the following Officers of the Class were appointed:

Chairman – Henri Samuel (FRA)
Vice Chairman Europe – Riccardo Simoneschi (ITA)
Vice Chairman North America – Scott Gregory (USA)
Member Europe – Martin Finell (FIN)
Member North America – Travis Weisleder (USA)
Treasurer – Simon Henning (GBR)

In addition Guenter Tzeschlock remains in post as IMCA Secretary.

Future Events

Event	Location	Dates
World Championship 2007	Santa Cruz, CA, USA	5-12 May
European Championship 2007	Neustadt, Germany	TBC, early/mid August
World Championship 2008	Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy	TBC, late June
North American Champs 08	Annapolis, MD, USA	TBC, October
World Championship 2009	Annapolis, MD USA	TBC, October
European Championship 2009	TBA	TBA

Next Meeting

The next IMCA AGM will take place in Paris during October 2007. A confirmed date and location will be published in due course.