Tracking System (SWC and Grade 1/2)

Introduction of Standards for the Usage of Tracking Systems for Tracking and Race Management

A submission from the Deutscher Segler-Verband (DSV)

Proposal

Sailors participating at an ISAF Sailing World Cup (SWC) or Grade 1/2 events have to bring their own tracking device and carry it on board while racing.

ISAF should define a set of standards for such devices and certify vendors complying with these standards.

The standard should include:

- the rules and procedures for OCS

- the rules and procedures for the finish

- the rules and procedures for the installation on different class-boats (as defined with the Class representatives and Athlete's Commission)

- display of courses, marks, starting line, finishing line and other points of interest

- interfaces to other systems like TV / media or race management systems

The ISAF initiated list of vendors should include more than one vendor.

Current Position

Most races have no tracking systems in place or use. Only some of the SWC or Grade 1/2 organisers have equipped the competitors boats with a tracking system. While most of those event organisers have their own system, the critical mass is not achieved (cost), the systems work different, provide a different set of functionality and precision.

Most systems only allow to track a limited number of boats on the internet. Only a few systems allow e.g, OCS control.

Currently there is no ISAF standard for tracking systems or devices in place.

Reason

In order to further promote Olympic Sailing it is essential to bring on-water racing immediately onshore to spectators and media.

An effective tracking system will also standardize and harmonize race management. It will improve quality of race management, reduce black flag starts and recalls and improve positioning of mark (starting vessels etc.) to name just a few.

With the definition of a standard and a number of providers supporting this standard the costs per device will go down.

Individual sailors could buy 'their own' device, bring it like other parts of their equipment to the events and the event organiser provides the software solutions the devices could 'log-in'.

2009 NOVEMBER CONFERENCE

COUNCIL DECISION – NOVEMBER 2009

Council received submission 088-09 from the Deutscher Segler-Verband.

Decision

Council deferred submission 088-09 to November 2010 (35 in favour, 2 against, 0 abstain).

Council noted the need for ISAF standards.

Recommendation from the Reporting Committee

Events Committee

Recommendation to Council: Defer

The Events Committee recommends that the work of the Technology Working Party to develop standards and specifications be continued; the use of tracking devices in Medal Races at events is strongly encouraged.

Opinions from the Other Committees

Equipment Committee

Opinion: Reject

The Equipment Committee believes in this project, but do not believe the technology is ready yet. We are waiting for a standard to be proposed

Executive Committee

Opinion: Reject

Impossible to implement at this stage. Executive Committee has asked the Technology Working Party of the Race Officials Committee to develop a specification for tracking equipment.

Race Officials Committee

Opinion: Reject

see item 1 (f)

<u>ISAF Classes Committee</u>

Opinion: Reject

Support the intent of the submission, but recommend rejecting the submission as the systems are still far from being ready to use and still require further development, especially regarding control of startlines