



International Foundation for Disabled Sailing

2004 AGM MINUTES

The IFDS Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 5 December 2004 at the Hotel Schipol, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

PRESENT:

IFDS Executive Board

Ian Harrison (GBR) – Chairman
 Serge Jorgensen (USA)
 Riekus Hatzmann (NED)
 Jan Romme (NED)
 Phil Vardy (AUS)

Chairmen – IFDS Committees

Pauline Harrison (GBR) – IFDS Development Committee Chairman
 Linda Merkle (USA) – IFDS Technical Committee Chairman
 Charles Simpson (CAN) – IFDS Medical Committee Chairman

Country Representatives

Australia	David Staley	Voting
Canada	Erika Vines	Voting
	Steve Alvey	Observer
Czech Republic	Jitka Blahonouska	Voting
Finland	Antero Karjalainen	Voting
France	Pierre Saint Marty	Voting
Germany	Dietmar Budwill	Voting
	Wilfried Klein	Observer
Great Britain	Mark Barron	Voting
	George Barker	Observer
Greece	Akis Tsarouhis	Voting
Hungary	Péter Böröcz	Voting
	Zoltan Pegan	Observer
Ireland	John Twomey	Voting



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Norway	Ragnar Kelevaas	Voting
Portugal	Bruno Valentim	Voting
Singapore	Thanapal "Frankie" Sinniah	Voting
Spain	Francisco Perez-Rodnas	Voting
Sweden	Emma Hallén	Voting
United States of America	Hugh Elliot	Voting

It was noted that there were 16 voting delegates present.

1. OPENING

The Chairman, Ian Harrison, opened the 2004 Annual General Meeting, and gave a report of activities over the past year.

On a proposal by Hugh Elliot, seconded by Phil Vardy the Annual General Meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Ian Harrison for his commitment and services to disabled sailing over the years.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of IFDS Annual General Meeting of 10 September 2003 were noted and there were no matters arising.

Decision

On a proposal by Hugh Elliot, seconded by Mark Barron, the minutes were approved.

3. FINANCE

(a) 2004 RNA Subscriptions

The Treasurer, Jan Romme, reported on the status of IFDS Subscriptions and it was noted that at the time of the meetings only Estonia were outstanding in their subscription payment.

(b) 2003 Accounts

The Treasurer presented the 2003 Accounts, as at 31 December 2003.

David Staley, the representative from Australia commented that the papers should be circulated to RNA's in advance of the meeting.

Decision

On a proposal by Hugh Elliot, seconded by John Twomey, the 2003 Accounts were approved (14 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain).

(c) 2004 Budget

The Treasurer advised that it was anticipated that there would be a budget deficit in 2004 of EUR 5,000-7,000. To balance the budget the deficit would need to be drawn from the IFDS capital.

(d) 2005 Budget

The 2005 Budget was considered and the Treasurer reported that he anticipated a balanced budget. It was noted that the budget included funds to hold a YES-Singapore Conference in November 2005 (attached as Appendix 1).

4. IFDS CONSTITUTION

The Chairman reported that the IFDS Constitution had been approved at the 2003 AGM, and this was the Constitution under which IFDS was currently operating.

In response to a question from the floor, it was noted that the Executive Board could have between 4-6 members, and it was up to the Executive Board to decide its size, a matter which would be discussed at the next IFDS Executive Board meeting. If it was decided to increase the membership of the IFDS Executive Board, then nominations would be sought and elections held.

David Staley queried the status of a nomination by the Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC) nominating Thannapal “Frankie” Sinniah to the IFDS Executive Board.

It was noted that whilst the nomination had been received, as there had been no decision to increase the membership of the IFDS Executive Board, the nomination had not been considered. It was noted that once a decision has been made on the number of Executive Board members, then all RNA's will be invited to nominate candidates.

However, it was recognized that there had been an oversight in the handling of the nomination and an apology was extended to Frankie Sinniah and the Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC) for the oversight.

It was noted that the IFDS Executive Board would look favourably on reviewing its membership. The IFDS Executive Board will ensure a fair and equitable process is followed, that all RNA's are informed and have the opportunity to nominate candidates.

Decision

On a proposal by David Staley, seconded by Peter Böröcz, it was agreed that the nominations to the IFDS Executive Board and the process of nominations and appointments be considered at the next Executive Board face-to-face meeting.

5. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The AGM noted the existing structure and membership of the IFDS Committees:

- Development Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Technical Committee
- Medical Committee

The AGM was advised that the Executive Board would review the Committee Structure at their next meeting, with a view to increasing the range of Committees and membership, and that feedback will be sought from the RNA's.

6. REPORTS FROM IFDS COMMITTEES

Verbal reports were received from the following Committee Chairmen:

(a) IFDS Medical Committee – Charles Simpson (CAN)

Charles Simpson reported the appointment of two new IFDS International Classifiers:

Sue Cotgrove (GBR)

Jenny Molson (CAN)

It was noted that additional International Classifiers were sought, and whilst several people were close to meeting the qualifications required, more were sought. Charles Simpson reported that the IFDS Executive Board would be considering changes to the number of classifiers required at Championships.

Reporting on the revised Functional Classification System 2005, which would be effective worldwide on 1 January 2005, Charles Simpson advised the main changes (attached as Appendix 2). It was noted that in future event organizers will be permitted, after discussion and approval from IFDS, to waive certain FCS requirements for specific events.

It was noted that the next Functional Classification system would be circulated to RNA's for comment and input prior to the final draft being put to the AGM for approval.

Decision

The IFDS Functional Classification System 2005 was approved.

(b) IFDS Technical Committee – Linda Merkle (USA)

Linda Merkle reported on the revised IFDS Race Management Manual to be effective from 1 January 2005, and advised that most of the changes were re-ordering and for clarification.

It was reported to the AGM that the Technical Committee were preparing an Event and Equipment Criteria for the 2008 and 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competitions which would form the protocol by which IFDS debate and decisions would take place on the events and equipment. It was noted that the criteria would be finalized by the IFDS Executive Board face-to-face meeting and then circulated to RNA's and published on the website.

(c) IFDS Development Committee – Pauline Harrison (GBR)

Pauline Harrison opened her report by welcoming Frankie Sinniah and Jackie Kay as new members of the Development Committee.

It was noted that the work of the Development Committee is two-fold, to push development from top to the bottom, and from bottom to the top. Progress continues to be made working via the ISAF MNA's and the National Paralympic Committees.

Pauline Harrison gave an overview of arrangements and the success of the YES-Europe Conference, which had been held in the days preceding the AGM.

On a proposal by Hugh Elliot, seconded by David Staley the AGM unanimously recorded a vote of thanks to Pauline Harrison for the phenomenal work undertaking in organizing the YES-Europe Conference.

(d) IFDS Fundraising Committee – Jan Romme (NED)

Jan Romme advised that whilst fundraising can be undertaken and has been successful in the past, a specific project around which the fundraising can be focused must be identified.

It was noted that funds have been received to revise the IFDS Sailing Manual, a project which would take place in 2005.

7. IFDS EVENTS

The programme of IFDS World Championships for the period 2005-2008 was noted (as published on the IFDS website). Bids were invited for 2007, which at the time of the meeting has no World Championship events confirmed.

8. INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that IFDS has applied to the International Paralympic Committee for two additional Paralympic Sailing events from 2008 onwards. It was noted that IFDS anticipates receiving the IPC decision in April 2005.

9. 2008 PARALYMPIC SAILING COMPETITION

The Chairman gave a brief update on arrangements for the 2008 Paralympic Sailing competition.

10. CLASS CONTRACT

Serge Jorgensen reported that IFDS would be introducing a class contract, to be signed between ISAF and the classes selected as the equipment for the Paralympic Sailing Competition. The contract would address issues such as price control, rules and measurement, distribution and availability, class rule changes, advertising, and would focus on creating a partnership between IFDS and the class.

It was noted that the IFDS Executive Board were also considering the creation of a Paralympic Class Commission.

11. ARBITRATION WAIVER

The intent of the Arbitration Waiver, to use the Court of Arbitration for Sport, was noted.

12. CLASS STATUS FOR EQUIPMENT

Attention was drawn to the requirement that equipment selected for the Paralympic Games should be an ISAF Class as set out in ISAF Regulation 26.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Divisions

The representatives from France raised the issue of introducing two divisions within one fleet in the 2.4mR, which it was noted would be considered by the IFDS Technical Committee.

(b) Ian Harrison

Speaking on behalf of the IFDS Executive Board and RNA's, Phil Vardy paid tribute to retiring IFDS Chairman, Ian Harrison. Ian's tireless contribution to the sport and ability to lead and progress disabled sailing over many years have been outstanding.

Ian Harrison was presented with a gift in recognition of his years of dedicated leadership and service to IFDS.

The AGM stood in applause.

(c) Serge Jorgensen

As the incoming IFDS Chairman, Serge Jorgensen thanked Ian Harrison, and expressed his excitement and honour at working with the IFDS Executive Board and RNA's in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Appendix 1 – 2005 Budget

2005 IFDS Budget	
1 January - 31 December 2005	
	Budget
Income	
Donations	5000.00
Events Income	1000.00
Interest	100.00
IPC Contributions	10000.00
Membership Fees	15000.00
TOTAL INCOME	31100.00
Expense	
Accountant	500.00
Bank Charges	500.00
Event Expenses	1000.00
Expenses Secretariat	500.00
Meetings	2000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	1100.00
Phone/Fax/Email	500.00
Postage	500.00
Printing and Stationary	500.00
Publications/PR	5000.00
Travelling Expenses	19000.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	31100.00
NET INCOME	0.00

Appendix 2 – Overview of changes to the Functional Classification System 2004 since FCS 2000.

- 1. (c) New. Definition of VSDS
- 1. (d) New. Definition of SDS
- 1.2 Minimum Disability. Some clarifications and additions.
- 1.3 Maximum points per crew. Changes because of the possible introduction of new crewed formats or boats
- 1.4.1 (a), (b), & (c) New wording of PPS status etc, and description of the classification and medical review process.
- 1.4.2 Boat specific classification. New.
- 1.5 Personal Assistive devices. Some new additions and changes.
- 1.9.1 Sailors' responsibility for classification. This is a re-emphasis and expansion of sailors' responsibilities.
- 2.3.1, 2.3.2 & 2.3.3 These sections are reworded, with regard to the awarding of bonus points (deducted from total). These are not easy sections to read or understand, but will be clearer instructions for the classifiers, with less likelihood of ambiguity. It will also mean that some non-amputee disabled sailors will receive bonuses that they may not have done.
- 2.4 Functional Sailing test. The last sentence is new.
- 2.5 , 3.2 & Appendix E. **Vision** . These are **important for the visually impaired** because there have been major changes which may affect the classification of some sailors. We have reverted to IBSA standards. Some of these are more strict than our previous requirements, but some are less so. IBSA may change some of their standards in the coming year.
- 3.1 **Classification Scores**. You will notice that the total score allowable is now 320 instead of 300 points. This is because we have added points for neck function. All other scores have been adjusted accordingly. This should not affect the actual classification of anyone other than a few with neck problems and it may work to their advantage. See also **Appendix A.1, Part 3, section A**. where some other changes have been made to trunk function and hand function. Here again, a review of 90 records showed that hardly any sailor's classification might change. The only group that might have a change in classification are those paraplegics whose functional anatomical score lies close to the border between class2 and 3 and this is approximately 5 % of those paraplegic records reviewed.
- 5 **Protests**. This has been entirely reworded, with the help of an International Judge, David Pelling (CAN). The intent has changed little, but the wording has changed quite a bit. Of note are 5.1. (d), which is new, and 5.2. (b) which is different. Sailors are once again reminded that protest procedures at the Paralympics may be entirely different from those in all other ISAF/IFDS sanctioned events.
- Appendix A.1** Note payment details – credit information will be kept confidential and destroyed after use.
- Appendix A.1, part 3, section B** Dock Test. Reworded for use in single person and other boats.
- Appendix A.2** Review form. This is a new form, to be read carefully, answered and signed by sailors being reviewed in a new quadrennium. There will be a classification and medical review administration fee charged at the first review in each quadrennium
- Appendix B. Benchmarks** Some additions.