



**International Association  
for Disabled Sailing**

## **FINAL MINUTES**

The 2007 IFDS Annual General Meeting met on Sunday 4 November 2007 in the Gale Room, Vila Gale, Estoril, Portugal, 0945-1215 hours local time.

*Please refer to the IFDS website [www.sailing.org/disabled](http://www.sailing.org/disabled) for details of the submissions on this agenda.*

1.	Opening	2	5.	Submissions	4
2.	Minutes of the last meeting	2	6.	IFDS Committees	5
3.	IFDS Recognized National Authorities	2	7.	2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition	8
4.	Finance	3	8.	Any other business	8

### **Present:**

#### **IFDS Executive Committee**

Serge Jorgensen – IFDS President  
Gustaf Fresk – IFDS Vice-President  
Linda Merkle – IFDS Vice-President  
John Twomey – IFDS Vice-President  
Jan Romme – IFDS Vice-President  
David Staley – IFDS Vice-President

#### **Chairmen – IFDS Committees**

Betsy Alison – IFDS Coaches Commission  
Jürgen Schwittai – IFDS Medical Officer

#### **Country Representatives**

Australia	David Staley	Ireland	John Twomey
Canada	Douglas Nutting	Norway	Paal Erik Bryhn
Finland	Antero Karjalainen	Portugal	Jose Manuel Albuquerque
Germany	Jens Kroker	Sweden	Gunnar Hansson
Great Britain	John Derbyshire	United States of America	Betsy Alison
Greece	George Calligeris		

#### **Observers**

Portugal – Sonja Amorin  
United States of America – Robin Wallace

#### **ISAF**

Emma Little – ISAF Disabled Sailing Secretary

#### **Apologies**

Nucci Novi Ceppellini – ISAF Vice-President  
Luissa Smith – ISAF, Director, Training and Development

## 1. OPENING

### (a) Opening Presentation

The IFDS President welcomed guests and thanked those in attendance.

### (b) Annual Report

2007 has seen some exciting developments in the growth of Disabled Sailing. This is reflected in the number of nations who are members of the IFDS (Recognized National Authorities), which has increased from 27 to 32 nations. All of these nations are actively participating in disabled sailing events and are being encouraged to pursue their membership through the ISAF Member National Authorities (MNA).

There has been an increase in the number of women participating in sailing has increased and this has had a positive influence in the development of the sport; IFDS is encouraging builders and designers to submit proposals for equipment at future Paralympic Sailing Competitions.

IFDS is aligning policies and committees with ISAF and is working on:

- The inclusion of Paralympic Classes in ISAF Grade 1 events.
- Initiating an IFDS Ranking System.
- Certification of IFDS Officials within ISAF.
- Increasing the number of IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championships.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

### (a) Minutes

The minutes of the meeting that took place on the 4 November 2006 were noted.

### Decision

**On a motion made by the United States of America and seconded, the minutes were approved.**

### (b) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## 3. IFDS RECOGNIZED NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

The following new members of the IFDS were noted:

- Argentina
- Austria
- Croatia
- Russia

- Turkey

#### 4. FINANCE

The IFDS Treasurer summarized his report that had been circulated. The main discussion centred on the improvement of the IFDS Finances during 2005 and the contributing factors. A summary of the main contributing factors being:

- an increase in the number of nations become members of the IFDS. This had increases from 27 to 32 during 2007.
- a steady flow of income received from IFDS International Classification Fees.

It was noted that there were payments from Bethwaite Design which were still outstanding and the IFDS Treasurer was in the process of following up on this.

Since the success of the IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championship, 2007, Rochester, the IFDS are in the process of initiating sponsorship deals. The IFDS President and Treasurer are progressing this and will be priority during 2008.

#### **Decision**

**Any suggestions regarding sponsorship deals are welcomed and should be sent to the IFDS Secretariat.**

#### **(a) IFDS Accounts**

- (i) 2006 Income and Expenditure

Information about the 2006 Income and Expenditure was presented.

- (ii) 2006 Balance Sheet

The 2006 Balance Sheet was discussed and it was concluded that the IFDS Finances were as detailed in the predicted summary.

It was recommended by Jens Kroker (GER) that any amount left in the IFDS bank account at the end of the financial year should be transferred into a savings account.

- (iii) 2008 Budget

It was confirmed that the 2008 Budget reflected the increase in RNA Subscriptions.

- (iv) 2007 Prognoses in relation to the 2007 Budget

The 2007 Prognoses in relation to the 2007 Budget was discussed.

#### **Decision**

**On a Motion made by Canada and seconded, the IFDS Accounts were**

**approved.**

**(b) IFDS RNA Subscriptions**

**(i) 2007 IFDS RNA Subscriptions**

It was noted that all of the 2007 IFDS Subscriptions had been received.

**(ii) Increase in the 2008 IFDS RNA Subscriptions**

The RNA's were reminded of IFDS's intention to increase the 2008 IFDS RNA Subscription by 17.6%, as detailed in Appendix 1.

**Decision**

**On a motion made by the Norway and seconded, the increase of the 2008 RNA Subscriptions was approved.**

**5. SUBMISSIONS**

**(a) 01-07/IFDS – Safety Related Items, Part 1 Section 8, IFDS Race Management Manual**

A submission from US Sailing regarding Safety Related Items to be included in the IFDS Race Management Manual was discussed.

It was recommended by Great Britain that IFDS should inform the organizers the Paralympic Games that this is an additional requirement of IFDS.

**Decision**

**On a motion made by Canada and seconded, this submission was approved and will be included in the IFDS Race Management Manual and that the organizing committee of the 2008 Paralympic Games be contacted and informed that this is an additional requirement of IFDS.**

**SJ**

**(b) 02-07/IFDS – IFDS Constitution**

A submission from the IFDS Executive Committee to correct article 9.2 and 9.2(a) was discussed.

**Decision**

**On a motion made by Germany and seconded, article 9.2 in the IFDS Constitution be amended as follows:**

**SJ**

**The General Meeting shall meet at least once a year. Annually and no later than 12 months ~~six months~~ after the close of the association's year unless this period has been extended by the General Meeting.**

**Article 9.2(a) in the IFDS Constitution be modified as follows:**

**the annual report and the annual accounts and explanatory notes as referred to in article 19 ~~18~~, together with the report to be drawn up by the committee mentioned therein;**

**(c) 03-07/IFDS – IFDS Executive Committee Rotation**

A submission from the IFDS Executive Committee to extend the terms of office for John Twomey (IRL) and Gustaf Fresk (SWE) from 3 to 4 year terms and the election of an appropriate number of IFDS Vice-Presidents to establish a progressive rotation was discussed.

As detailed in Appendix 2.

**Decision**

**On a motion by United States of America and duly seconded this motion was approved.**

**6. IFDS COMMITTEES**

**(a) IFDS Coaches Commission**

The Chairman of the IFDS Coaches Commission, Betsy Alison summarised her written report which detailed the activities of the Committee from November 2006-November 2007.

It was recommended that the IFDS Executive Committee and IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission strive to finalize event venues for IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championships several years in advance.

A Ranking System for Sailors with a disability was discussed and it was agreed that introducing such a system would be beneficial. This would be pursued.

**BA**

It was expressed that many RNA's who had purchased SKUD18's had experienced problems over the quality control and supply of the boats.

Many RNA's with SKUD18 programmes expressed concern over quality control and supply issues with the SKUD18. The IFDS Executive Committee were asked to ensure that the builder was aware of these issues and to work with them to address the concerns.

It was noted that there are currently no IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championships scheduled during a Paralympic Year. Further to discussions by coaches it was agreed that IFDS should reconsider this and include World Championships for equipment chosen as Paralympic classes, in order to

increase the participation levels prior to a Paralympic Sailing Competition.

A discussion took place about the health and safety issues in China during the International Event and Paralympic Games. Heat related issues were noted as being a major concern and it was noted that the use of cooling vests and other devices prior to, in between and after racing to regulate core temperatures and that the air quality was also a concern. Betsy Alison informed of US Sailing's submission (01-07/IFDS – Safety Related Items) to IFDS for the AGM on this issue.

The report by the chairman of the IFDS Coaches Commission was concluded by expressing her delight over the increased participation levels of disabled sailors world wide and it is hoped that two meetings of the Coaches Commission would be held during 2008. It was also confirmed that Betsy would remain as Chair of the Commission for another year.

(b) IFDS Development Committee

The IFDS President conveyed the apologies of the chairman of the IFDS Development Committee for her absence.

(c) IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission

The chairman of the IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission confirmed that the following people had been elected to be on the IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission:

**EL**

- John TWOMEY, Chairman (IRL)
- Gustaf FRESK (SWE)
- Bruce KIRBY (USA)
- Greg OMAI (AUS)

Upon confirmation of the Evaluation Criteria to be used by this committee, this document would be circulated to RNA's.

(d) IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission

The apologies of the Chairman of the IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission, Ian Harrison, were given and his written report was summarised. As detailed in Appendix 3.

(e) IFDS Fundraising Committee

Jan Romme informed RNA's at the AGM, that if anyone had any suggestions as to ways of obtaining sponsorship deals, then they should advise the Secretariat.

(f) IFDS Medical Committee

The Chairman of the IFDS Medical Committee, Jürgen Schwittai summarized his written report about the activities of the Committee which detailed:

- the opportunities provided to enable athletes to receive an IFDS International Classification.
- The success of the IFDS International Classification Seminar that was held in conjunction with the IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championship, 2007, USA.
- IFDS's involvement in the development of the IPC Classification Code.
- The progress of reviewing the FCS 2008 so that it adheres to the requirements detailed in the IPC Classification Code.
- The progress that was being made with regard to the development of a data base to record IFDS information was discussed.
- The classification requirements for athletes competing in the 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition was discussed.

**Once again ALL athletes were reminded that they can be tested by the World Anti-Doping Agency for taking banned substances at any time. If athletes are taking any medication, either prescribed by a doctor or obtained 'over the counter' they must obtain a dispensation (TUE) from ISAF.**

(g) IFDS Rules & Regulations Committee

The updates to the Constitution were noted.

(h) IFDS Sailors Advisory Council

The IFDS President confirmed the representatives on the IFDS Sailors Advisory Council as:

Bento AMARAL (POR)

Colin HARRISON (AUS)

Bob JONES (USA)

Suto MASAKAZA (JPN)

Maureen MCKINNON-TUCKER (USA)

Zoltan PEGAN (HUN)

Ademir PERIERA (BRA)

John ROBERTSON (GBR)

Hannah STODEL (GBR)

(i) IFDS Technical Committee

In the absence of the Technical Committee Chairman, Colin Johanson (AUS), the report was summarised into the main areas that Committee had focused and these are as follows:

- Review and revision of the IFDS Rules of Race Management. It was recommended that the revision of the Rules of Race Management be undertaken by more than two people.
- Review of the Paralympic Class Rules to eliminate conflicts and inconsistencies with the IFDS Rules of Race Management.
- Formalizing the procedure and membership of the Adaptations Committee that meets at each IFDS Worlds and Paralympic Sailing Competition.

(j) IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee

It was noted that the IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee had nothing to report.

**7. 2008 PARALYMPIC SAILING COMPETITION**

The report from the Technical Delegate for the 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition was discussed as detailed in Appendix 4.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

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## Appendix 1

### IFDS RNA Fee Structure

As proposed at the 2006 IFDS Annual General Meeting, the annual IFDS RNA Subscriptions will be increased by 17.6% and will be evident in the 2008 IFDS RNA Subscription. Please note that the figures have been rounded up to the nearest Euro.

#### **A Full Member – ISAF Category 3-6**

**First Year - ~~€340~~ €400**

**Second Year and Subsequent Years - ~~€680~~ €800**

Larger countries that have an established disabled sailing program.

Members in IFDS Category A are entitled to:

- Compete in all IFDS Events and the Paralympic Sailing Competition.
- Utilize the services of the secretariat.
- The RNA may nominate a candidate for Voting Membership of the IFDS Executive Board.
- Appoint two Delegates to a General Meeting, of whom one shall vote.

#### **B Full Member – ISAF Category 1, 2**

**First year - ~~€170~~ €200**

**Second Year and Subsequent Years - ~~€340~~ €400**

Smaller countries which have an established disabled sailing program.

Members in IFDS Category B are entitled to:

- Compete in all IFDS Events and the Paralympic Sailing Competition.
- Utilize the services of the secretariat.
- The RNA may nominate a candidate for Voting Membership of the IFDS Executive Board.
- Appoint two Delegates to a General Meeting, of whom one shall vote.

**C Associate Member**  
**Yearly Fee - ~~€25~~ €30**

Countries where an individual pays the fee.

Members in IFDS Category C are:

- Able to utilize the services of the secretariat.
- Not eligible to compete in any IFDS Events or the Paralympic Sailing Competition.
- Able to attend an IFDS Annual General Meeting, but not able to vote.

**D Affiliate Member**  
**Yearly Fee - ~~€170~~ €200**

International Organizations

Members in IFDS Category D are:

- Able to utilize the services of the secretariat.
- Not eligible to compete in any IFDS Events or the Paralympic Sailing Competition.
- Able to attend an IFDS Annual General Meeting, but not able to vote.

## Appendix 2

### IFDS Executive Committee Rotation

#### Proposal:

1. That the elected term of IFDS Vice Presidents, Gustaf Fresk and John Twomey be extended to a 4 year term from the current 3 year term.
2. That the election of an appropriate number of IFDS Vice Presidents be conducted to establish a progressive rotation (refer table below).

#### Current Position:

Four IFDS Executive Committee members are scheduled to retire in 2008. Please refer to the table below.

#### Reasons:

Establishing a regular pattern of progressive retirements and new appointments to the IFDS Executive Committee will ensure experienced committee members are able to support newly elected members and provide a sense of continuity.

**IFDS Executive Committee Terms** (commencing at the AGM preceding the first year indicated)

#### **Current Position**

Member	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Serge Jorgensen (USA)										
Jan Romme (NED)										
Gustaf Fresk (SWE)										
John Twomey (IRL)										
Linda Merkle (USA)										
David Staley (AUS)										

#### **Proposal for the 2007 AGM to establish incremental annual changeover of membership**

Member	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Serge Jorgensen (USA)										
Jan Romme (NED)										
Gustaf Fresk (SWE) four year term reinstated										
John Twomey (IRL) four year term reinstated										
Linda Merkle (USA)										
David Staley (AUS)										
Two VP's elected in 2008										

## Appendix 3

### Report from the chairman of the IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission, Ian Harrison

#### 2007

**1- 9 June** An excellent Multi hull Regatta was held in Afissos Greece with 22 entries from 11 Countries.

**7-14 September** The second qualifying event for the 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition for the Single-Person Keelboat (2.4mR) and Three-Person Keelboat (Sonar) and the first qualifying event for the Two-Person Keelboat (SKUD18) was held in Rochester New York, USA and hosted by the Rochester Yacht Club.

This was the largest event ever staged under the IFDS flag with 170 Athletes from 29 Nations. The organisation and standard of sailing was outstanding and IFDS owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Rochester Yacht Club, to their members, volunteers and staff for an enormously successful event.

Disabled sailors participated in Olympic Classes Regattas (OCR) in Miami, Hyeres, Kiel and Sail Melbourne. These are now firmly established as annual events and are particularly valuable as they not only provide excellent racing but also provide an ideal opportunity for promoting disabled sailing to the rest of the world.

**1-4 November** The Homerus International Blind match Racing Event is being held in Palermo, Italy.

#### 2008

Sail Melbourne, Miami, Hyeres and Kiel will include some of the Paralympic classes again in 2008.

**20-28 March** The IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championship, 2008, Two-person Keelboat will be held in Singapore and will be the second qualifying event for the 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition for the SKUD18 class.

**8-16 May** 2008 IFDS International Event - Qingdao. This event will be open to the three Paralympic Classes.

**4-12 July** IFDS Multi Hull World Championship – Cascais, Portugal. To be sailed in Challenger Trimarans.

**30 August** - Paralympic Venue opens  
**8-13 September** - Paralympic Regatta Qingdao  
**18 September** - Paralympic Village and Venue closes

## **2009**

**13–21 March** Blind World Sailing Championships - New Zealand

An expression of interest has been received proposing that a World Championship may be possible in Oporto, Portugal for Paralympic Classes. Further details are awaited.

## **2010**

**July/August** The Royal Netherlands Yacht Club have offered to host the IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championship, 2010, in Medemblik during the last week in July and the first week in August. The event will be open to Paralympic Classes

## **2011**

The Royal Yachting Association have agreed to host the 2011 IFDS World Championship in Weymouth, UK, the venue for the 2012 Paralympic Regatta. Dates are to be arranged.

## **2012**

Paralympic Games

## **Note**

We are aware that there is a concentration of events in Europe during the next few years and therefore we are taking steps to encourage RNAs in Asia and the far east to organize events in their own areas.

## Appendix 4

### 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition, Technical Delegate Report, Phil Vardy, Ian Harrison

#### **Introduction**

This report draws heavily on preliminary information distributed to contestants and others at the World Championships in Rochester USA in September 2007. Its aim is to provide an up-to-date summary of the state of preparation for the 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition.

#### **Authority**

##### **Olympic & Paralympic Games**

One authority, the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games (BOCOG), will run the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games, The Sailing Subcommittee – Qingdao (SSCQD) of BOCOG will be responsible for Sailing. SSCQD operates with a certain degree of autonomy. <http://www.sailing2008.org/abouten/briefs.shtml>

#### **Sailing**

The International Sailing Federation (ISAF) is a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The International Association for Disabled Sailing (IFDS) is affiliated to the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). ISAF and IFDS work together to stage sailing at the Olympic and Paralympic games.

#### **Personnel**

##### **SSCQD**

Mr XIA Geng, the chairman of SSCQD, heads the organization charged with staging the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic regattas. <http://www.sailing2008.org/abouten/leaders.shtml>

##### **IFDS**

###### *Technical Delegates*

Phil Vardy (AUS), Technical Delegate

Ian Harrison (GBR), Assistant TD – responsible for all on-water matters

Pauline Harrison (GBR), Secretary to the TDs

The TD team welcomes inquiries:

[Phil@IFDS.org](mailto:Phil@IFDS.org)

[Ian@IFDS.org](mailto:Ian@IFDS.org)

[Pauline@IFDS.org](mailto:Pauline@IFDS.org)

*International Classifiers*

Jurgen Schwittai (GER), Chairman  
Itzhak (Tsaki) Siev-Ner (ISR)  
Bernard Destrube (FRA)  
Jenny Molsen (CAN)

*International Jury:*

John Doerr (GBR),<sup>1</sup> Chairman  
Marianne Orvin Middleton (NOR), Vice Chairman  
Noel Allen (AUS)  
Zofia Truchanowicz<sup>2</sup> (POL)  
A Chinese judge<sup>3</sup>

*International Measurers*

Gene Hinkel (USA)  
Stefan Ryott (SWE)

*International Race Officers*

Ross Wilson (AUS)  
John Parrish (NZL)

It is hoped that experienced IFDS appointees will be able to assist the Chinese team managing the regatta.

**Location**

**Site**

In 2008, most Olympic and Paralympic events will be held in Beijing. Equestrian and Sailing, however, will be held in satellite venues – Hong Kong and Qingdao (pronounced ‘ching dow’, in English). Qingdao is on the southern side of the Shang Dong province (the large

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<sup>1</sup> Still to confirm acceptance (as of end October 2007)

<sup>2</sup> Still to confirm acceptance (as of end October 2007)

<sup>3</sup> Name to be confirmed

peninsula in northern China that points to Korea).  
<http://www.sailing2008.org/EnvironmentEN/briefview.shtml>

### **Venue**

For the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic regattas, a purpose-built venue has been constructed. The venue is the best that has ever been built for an Olympic/Paralympic regatta (Olympic and Paralympic sailors will use the same facilities).

After the Games:

- The harbour will become a sailing centre and port,
- The Olympic/Paralympic village will become a five-star hotel,
- The media centre will become an international-standard yacht club, and
- The administration block will become a national sailing school.

A video animation can be found at <http://www.sailing2008.org/VideoEN/olympic.aspx>  
Allow a few minutes to download.

### **Harbour**

In order to accommodate Paralympic competition and support boats, three 60m pontoons will be added to the northern Olympic dinghy launching platform. These facilities provide 360 linear metres of docking space which will allow all boats (competition and support) of any one nation to be located in one 'national' area. Four cranes will enable daily haul out. Hoists (with slings) will be available to any nation that requires them.

### **Accommodation**

In the village, 30 bedrooms will meet the IPC standards of "Fully Accessible" or "Wheelchair Friendly". Where possible, members of each national team will be housed together.

### **Access**

The venue is fully accessible to people with disabilities. The site is flat and level. Accommodation (Olympic/Paralympic village) is next to the entrance to the sailing venue. The athletes' lounge is linked by bridge to the village. The Container Park, Boat Park & Paralympic Pontoons are in close proximity. Golf buggies and teams of volunteers will assist movement around the venue.

### **Boat repair workshop & chandler**

There will be a large tent within the venue dedicated to ships chandlery and boat repair. Currently, there are no sail makers or chandlers in Qingdao.

**Facilities**

Medical centre, physiotherapy, wheelchair repair *etc.* to be available either in venue or village.

**Event****Racing**

Eleven races are planned for each class. If five or more races are sailed there will be one drop, if 11 are sailed, two will be dropped. Four races will constitute a series.

**Courses**

There will be two courses, set close to the breakwater spectator area and close to the harbour: Course A (trapezoidal, closest the harbour) for 2.4mRs & SKUDs, and Course B (windward-leeward) for Sonar.

**Schedule (2008)**

- 30 Aug. Village & Venue open; Registration, Classification & Measurement
- 6 Sept. Opening ceremony
- 7 Sept. Practice Race
- 8&9 Sept. Racing
- 10 Sept. Reserve
- 11-13 Sept. Racing
- 13/14 Sept. Medal presentation in Qingdao
- 16 Sept. Containers to leave venue
- 17 Sept. Closing ceremony, Beijing
- 18 Sept. Village & venue close

**Expected Sailing Conditions**

Historical data suggest that winds will be light to medium. Sea conditions can be up to two metres; the tide can flow at two knots.

**Anti-doping**

Athletes will be subject to strict WADA rules and regulations.

**Entry**<sup>1</sup>

Sonar	2.4mR	SKUD
CHN*	CHN*	CHN*
GBR <sup>†</sup>	GER <sup>†</sup>	USA <sup>‡</sup>
GER <sup>†</sup>	GBR <sup>†</sup>	SWE <sup>‡</sup>
NOR <sup>†</sup>	NOR <sup>†</sup>	AUS <sup>‡</sup>
AUS <sup>†</sup>	CAN <sup>†</sup>	CAN <sup>‡</sup>
ISR <sup>†</sup>	USA <sup>†</sup>	GBR <sup>‡</sup>
IRE <sup>†</sup>	AUS <sup>†</sup>	POR <sup>‡</sup>
CAN <sup>†</sup>	NZL <sup>†</sup>	§
USA <sup>‡</sup>	FRA <sup>‡</sup>	§
FRA <sup>‡</sup>	NED <sup>‡</sup>	§
GRE <sup>‡</sup>	DEN <sup>‡</sup>	§
BRA <sup>‡</sup>	GRE <sup>‡</sup>	§
AUT <sup>‡</sup>	ITA <sup>‡</sup>	
ITA <sup>‡</sup>	PUR <sup>‡</sup>	

Abbreviations as per Racing Rule 77.

<sup>1</sup> 80 athletes - 40 boats (14 x Sonars, 14 x 2.4mRs, 12 x SKUDs).

\* Automatic entry (as host nation)

<sup>†</sup> Qualified at the 2006 IFDS World Championships (Perth, Australia)

<sup>‡</sup> Qualified at the 2007 IFDS World Championships (Rochester, USA)

<sup>§</sup> To qualify at the 2008 IFDS World Championship (Singapore; SKUD only); see **Future Events**

**Transport**

It is anticipated that accessible transport will be available between Qingdao International Airport & the venue (40 minutes drive). See also **Access**.

**Relevant future events****International Championship (8-16 May 2008)**

This championship has been arranged to give sailors the possibility to experience the facilities in the Olympic/Paralympic Village and Venue and local on-water sailing

conditions. Many of the above facilities will be used during this event, including the Olympic/Paralympic Village.

**Schedule (2008)**

6 May`	Containers into the venue
8-10 May	Registration, Classification & Measurement
11-15 May	Race Days
16 May	Closing Ceremony
17 May	Containers and Equipment moved out of the venue.

**Fees**

Sonar	360 Euros
SKUD18	240 Euros
2.4mR	120 Euros

**Format**

Modified Paralympic Regatta

- One International Race Officer
- Three-person protest committee
- Limited classification (possibly two International Classifiers)
- Reduced measurement
- One trapezoid course

**2008 ISAF Mid-Year Meeting**

On 10 May 2008, ISAF Conference delegates are scheduled to visit the Olympic/Paralympic Venue. This will be an excellent opportunity to show-case Paralympic Sailing to the ISAF Executive Committee and to representatives of many national sailing associations.

**Recommendation**

That a 2008 Paralympic Regatta information site be established within the IFDS website – with access available from the opening page; update to be maintained by the TD team.

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