

## 2009 IFDS Annual General Meeting Minutes

The 2009 IFDS Annual General Meeting took place on Monday 9 November 2009 in the El Escoria Room at the Paradise Hotel, Busan, Korea, 0930-1525 hours local time.



Please refer to the website [www.sailing.org/disabled](http://www.sailing.org/disabled) for further information about the meeting.

### Present:

#### IFDS Executive Committee

Linda Merkle – IFDS President – LM  
Wilfried Klein – IFDS Vice-President – WK  
John Twomey – IFDS Vice-President – JT  
Costas Tsantilis – IFDS Vice-President – CT  
David Staley – IFDS Vice-President – DS

#### Chairmen – IFDS Committees

Betsy Alison – IFDS Coaches Commission – BA  
Bernard Destrube – IFDS Medical Committee - BD  
Ian Harrison – IFDS Events and Scheduling Commission – IH  
Pauline Harrison – IFDS Development Committee – PH  
Gene Hinkel – IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee - GH  
David Staley – IFDS Governance & Procedures Committee – DS  
John Twomey – IFDS Fundraising Committee – JT

#### Country Representatives - RNA

Australia	Phil Jones	Ireland	John Twomey
Brazil	Nelson Horn liha	Japan	Masako Otsuka
Canada	Brian Todd	Netherlands	Henry Sleutel
France	Bernard Destrube	Norway	Espen Guttormsen
Germany	Wilfried Klein	Sweden	Emma Hallen
Great Britain	John Derbyshire	USA	Betsy Alison
Greece	Costas Tsantilis		

#### Observers

Greece – Caterina Gouleliou  
Japan – Mr Watanabe

#### ISAF

Emma Little – ISAF Disabled Sailing Secretary - EL

#### Apologies

Colin Johanson (AUS) – Chairman, IFDS Technical Committee  
Teresa Lara - ISAF Vice-President  
Hannah Stodel – IFDS Sailors Advisory Council

1. Opening	2	8. 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competition	7
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting	2	9. IFDS Compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC)	8
3. Election of Officers	2	10. METS DAME Grant	8
4. Submissions	3	11. ISAF World Cup	8
5. IFDS Recognized National Authorities	5	12. Any other Business	8
6. Finance	5		
7. IFDS Committees	6		

## 1. Opening

### (a) Opening Presentation

LM

IFDS President, Linda Merkle noted that it had been a successful year showing substantial growth. Introduction of the Paralympic sailors into the Sailing World Cup has been a very positive step. The organisation is expanding in parallel to the development of disabled sailing and is experiencing the associated growing pains.

LM

### (b) Annual Report

The President noted the Annual Report for January-31 December 2008 had been circulated to all RNAs.

DS

### (c) IFDS Strategic Plan

The draft IFDS Strategic Plan had been circulated to the RNAs. IFDS Vice-President David Staley noted that this will be an important reference document for future decision making. It remains a working document and future input is welcomed from RNAs, IFDS Committee members and others.

#### Decision

**AUS moved that the IFDS Strategic Plan be adopted. Seconded USA. Carried unanimously.**

## 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

### (a) Minutes

LM

The AGM Minutes of 9 November 2008 had been circulated.

#### Decision

**GBR moved that the 2008 Minutes be adopted. Seconded AUS. Carried unanimously.**

### (b) Minutes Matters Arising

In response to the GBR Submission 04/08, a Statement from the IFDS Executive Committee was circulated outlining the approach that was being taken for developing a proposal to IPC for two additional Paralympic events. This includes a Blind Match Racing event with a target of commencing in 2016, and a One-Person Multihull event with a target of commencing in 2020.

Exec

GBR welcomed the response and asked that this be included in the IFDS Strategic Plan.

The plan is to have a formal proposal to IPC by mid 2010. There is no guarantee that IPC will approve either of these events but IFDS will make every endeavour to have these events included in the Paralympic Sailing Competition.

## 3. Election of Officers

### (a) IFDS Executive Committee

The President thanked the retiring Executive Committee Member, Gustaf Fresk for his service on the IFDS Executive Committee and noted that he would be

continuing to contribute to the organization as a member of the Technical Committee.

(b) IFDS Vice-President

i) To note the Eligible Candidates

The candidates who were nominated to be on the IFDS Executive Committee were confirmed as Micky Ayalon (ISR), Henry Sleutel (NED) and John Twomey (IRL).

ii) To elect two IFDS Vice-Presidents

Vice President David Staley circulated a paper and outlined the proposed voting procedure. With the agreement of the meeting, a secret ballot was conducted.

**Decision**

**Elected: Henry Sleutel (NED) and John Twomey (IRL).**

(c) IFDS Committee Members

The President thanked retiring Committee Chairpersons and Members for their services to IFDS - Ian Harrison, Pauline Harrison, Colin Johanson and Anne Allen.

#### 4. Submissions

To consider the following submissions:

**LM**

(a) Submission 01-09/IFDS Competition Opportunities for Sailors with an Intellectual Disability.

**Decision**

**FRA moved that Submission 01-09 be approved. Seconded NOR.**

**11 In Favour, 1 Opposed; Carried**

(b) Submission 02-09/IFDS Reduced Paralympic Sailing World Cup Circuit.

**Decision**

**AUS moved that Submission 02-09 be approved. Seconded USA.**

The IFDS Executive had circulated a paper explaining the ISAF and IFDS Rankings System and the way in which the latter created a focus on four identified events in 2010 – the Sailing World Cup events in Miami, Hyeres and Weymouth, along with the IFDS Worlds in Medemblik.

**Decision**

**The Submission was withdrawn by GBR.**

(c) Submission 03-09/IFDS Reduced Paralympic Sailing World Cup Circuit.

**Decision**

**The Submission was withdrawn by GBR.**

- (d) Submission 04-09/IFDS Paralympic World Rankings.

**Decision**

**The Submission was withdrawn by GBR.**

- (e) Submission 05-09/IFDS Disability Categories at ISAF World Cup Events.

There was lengthy discussion regarding the best way to reconcile the objectives of the sailors wanting larger fleets and the highest possible standards of competition with the ISAF objective of limiting participation to teams/sailors who are eligible for Paralympic Sailing Competition. IFDS has engaged in ongoing discussions with the ISAF Sailing World Cup Working Group, however it was recommended that ISAF policy needs to be influenced.

**Decision**

**Original Submission withdrawn by CAN.**

**CAN moved an amended Submission:**

**That IFDS advise ISAF in relation to the 2010 ISAF World Cup, that should individual event organizers wish to include sailors in the 2.4mR, SKUD18 and Sonar who do not meet the Paralympic Eligibility requirements, that IFDS would not object. It would be anticipated that all sailors would follow the same restrictions as set in the class rules for disabled sailors for operation of the boats, and ranking points would only accrue to competitors meeting the Paralympic Eligibility requirements.**

Exec

**Seconded NOR.**

**In favour 12. Opposed 0. Carried.**

- (f) Submission 06-09/IFDS 2.4mR Class Equipment.

**Decision**

**The Submission was withdrawn by CAN.**

- (g) Submission 07-09/IFDS 2.4mR Equipment

A letter from the 2.4mR Class Association was circulated. Concern was raised about these arrangements being in force for the first nations qualifier in Medemblik in 2010, including the two rudder types. If both rudders are allowed in 2010, this arrangement must stay in place until the 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competition. It was agreed that if the Class Association did not respond by 1 January then Appendix K would apply through to 2012.

**Decision**

**This needs to be actioned quickly to allow time for people to get compliant rudders. Noted that there seems to be little performance difference between the two rudders.**

**The IFDS Executive should consult with the 2.4mR Technical Advisors and Measurement Committee as soon as possible.**

**Original Submission withdrawn by CAN.**

**CAN moved an amended Submission: That the tabled proposal included in the letter from the International 2.4mR Vice President Peter Wilson be**

**adopted by IFDS through an amendment to Appendix K subject to details of the rudders being confirmed with the Class Association before January 1, 2010.**

**Seconded USA. In favour 12. Opposed 0. Abstained 1. This motion was carried.**

- (h) Submission 08-09/IFDS World Championship in 2012

**Decision**

**CAN moved that the submission be approved. Seconded NOR.**

**In favour 13. Opposed 1. Carried.**

**Noted that January 2012 IFDS World Disabled Sailing Championship is proposed for Fort Myers USA to be scheduled for the dates to be compatible with the 2012 Miami OCR.**

**5. IFDS Recognized National Authorities**

**LM**

To note the following Recognized National Authorities who joined IFDS during 2008/2009.

Armenia (ARM)

Switzerland (SUI)

Korea (KOR)

Philippines (PHI)

Homerus International also joined IFDS in 2009 as an Affiliate Member.

**6. Finance**

**JT**

IFDS Treasurer, John Twomey noted that he has been in the Treasurers role for 12 months. As the IFDS accounts are held in the Netherlands, past Treasurer Jan Romme has been managing the accounts under John's direction. He expressed his thanks to Jan Romme for his ongoing assistance.

If RNAs have enquiries about specific income, expenditure or budget items, the Treasurer would be happy to respond.

The President noted that classification fees have been collected by ISAF. These amounts will be shown in the 2009 accounts once the information has been collected from ISAF.

The second part of the IPC Grant has not been received so an additional amount will also be shown.

It was noted that the 2009 Grants income included the METS-DAME project funds of 20,000 EUR.

**Decision**

**Moved CAN to approve the 2008 Income & Expenditure as detailed in the 2008 Annual Report. Seconded USA. In favour 11. Opposed 0. Carried.**

- (a) 2008 Balance Sheet

The 2008 Balance Sheet as detailed in the 2008 Annual Report was noted.

- (b) 2009 Prognoses in relation to the 2009 Budget

The 2009 Prognoses in relation to the 2009 Budget were noted.

**Decision**

**Moved USA to approve the 2010 Budget. Seconded GBR.  
In favour 11. Opposed 0. Carried.**

- (c) IFDS RNA Subscriptions

The RNA Subscription Fees were discussed.

**Decision**

**Moved by the Treasurer that IFDS maintain the 2009 fees for 2010.  
Seconded GBR. Approved 11. Opposed 0. Carried**

## 7. IFDS Committees

A summary of the work of the Commissions and Committees were given.

- (a) IFDS Coaches Commission – Betsy Alison

The written report which was tabled was discussed.

- (b) IFDS Development Committee – Pauline Harrison

The Chairman confirmed that that 2009 has been a relatively quiet year with some difficulty getting the committee together. It is a big challenge to get new countries going when now they are must provide the equipment. In the past, IFDS has run some provided equipment events. Seeking funding to make supplied boats or low cost charter available for new countries attending IFDS events would be a good initiative.

IFDS should be encouraging people to get involved in smaller events, provided equipment events and promoting cooperation between neighbouring nations. IFDS now has a very good bank of images and PowerPoint presentations that will be available via the new IFDS website. Please forward your best images to IFDS. Pauline noted her thanks for being part of the IFDS family for 20+ years.

- (c) IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission – Ian Harrison

It was noted that an up to date IFDS events program is published on the website.

The 2009 Access Worlds is not an IFDS event but about 150 sailors expected and the majority will have a disability.

A recent visit to Medemblik was made to finalise arrangements for 2010 Worlds. Accommodation has been a focus and modifications are in planning and process.

Plans for the 2012 Championships in Fort Myers are progressing well.

Expressions of interest for future IFDS World Championships have been received from China, Singapore, United States of America and Canada. 2015 will be in Brazil.

The 2010 IFDS Blind Match Racing Worlds, June 20-27 in Bogliaco, Italy were noted.

Ian noted his thanks for Pauline's support that enabled him to undertake his role.

(d) IFDS Fundraising Committee – John Twomey

The Fundraising Committee has been relatively inactive during 2009. It is proposed to establish a new committee for 2010. It was noted that IFDS should be seeking grants for various projects.

(e) IFDS Medical Committee – Bernard Destrube

The Medical Committee Report was circulated and it was confirmed that compliance with the IPC Code is progressing.

(f) IFDS Governance & Procedures Committee – David Staley

It was noted there were no changes to the IFDS's Deed of Incorporation or By-Laws.

(g) IFDS Sailors Advisory Council – Hannah Stodel

A written report was tabled.

It was noted that a Sailors Forum was held in Greece. Currently the area that is being worked on is the accommodation available during the 2011 IFDS World Disabled Sailing Championship, Weymouth, Great Britain.

Along with the items mentioned above, the Chairman is working on reactivating this committee.

(h) IFDS Technical Committee – Colin Johanson

The Technical Committee report was circulated. IFDS Vice President, Henry Sleutel noted the focus for 2009 has been finalising Race Management Manual Part 1 but the Committee are now close to finishing this including Parts 2 & 3.

Item 7.1 in the RMM was identified as having a wording error. The Technical Committee tabled recommended wording for an amendment.

**Decision**

**CAN moved that the Race Management Manual be amended as per the Technical Committee recommendation. Seconded USA.  
In favour 9. Opposed 2. Carried**

(i) IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee – Gene Hinkel

**Decision**

**The committee report which was circulated prior to meeting was discussed.**

**8. 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competition**

**CT**

IFDS Vice President and Technical Delegate, Costas Tsantilis, reported that LOCOG will be building a village in Weymouth so there will not be the proposed cruise ship provided for accommodation of the Paralympic and Olympic athletes. He has visited the venue and is in contact with local council regarding securing the accommodation.

Qualification details are now being finalised with IPC for the 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competition and will be published soon. Next visit to Weymouth will be in January to discuss details of race documentation etc.

Courses will be inside the harbour (1 mile) and outside the harbour (0.8 mile) close to

Weymouth with expectation that the Two-Person Keelboat (SKUD18) will be outside and the One-Person Keelboat (2.4mR) and Three-Person Keelboat (Sonar) inside. These arrangements have not yet been finalized and will be further discussed in January 2010.

**9. IFDS Compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC)**

**BD**

A letter from IFDS to ISAF was tabled noting the IFDS proposal to cooperate with ISAF for the management of the WADA anti-doping code that IFDS is obliged to adopt.

Medical Committee Chairman, Bernard Destrubé noted that IFDS does not have the resources to manage all the Anti-Doping requirements and it would duplicate what is already in place at ISAF. IFDS would probably have a testing pool of around 18 athletes. Not being WADA compliant would cause IFDS to forfeit part of its IPC grant.

Concern was raised about how the testing pool will be determined. It was suggested that the testing pool be identified via annual IFDS World Championships as the rankings system is still in development and could enable sailors to avoid testing.

**Decision**

**FRA moved that the IFDS adopt the WADA Code for International Federations. Seconded IRL. Approved 11. Opposed 0. Carried.**

**10. METS DAME Grant**

**WK**

IFDS Vice President Wilfried Klein provided a verbal report on the development of the website project. This is under construction at <http://ifds.org> He demonstrated the website structure and menus and the registration process that allows various forum, contributor or administration rights. He will be working with Colin Johanson (AUS) and Gustaf Fresk (SWE) to develop the site.

The group are looking for RNAs and others to contribute photographs, videos, calendar entries, documents etc. All RNAs will have administration rights to be able to post material to the site. Wilfried has asked for as much information and images as possible be sent in so the working group can post useful material as soon as possible.

**11. ISAF World Cup**

**JT**

John Twomey noted that the One-Person Keelboat (2.4mR) competed in every ISAF Sailing World Cup event. The Three-Person Keelboat (Sonar) attended Miami and Weymouth and the Two-Person Keelboat (SKUD18) were in Melbourne, Miami and Weymouth. The ISAF Sailing World Cup will develop into a significant series for the IFDS athletes and the organization should strongly support it.

**12. Any other Business**

**(a) ISAF Representation**

It was noted that IFDS no longer have representatives appointed on ISAF Committees but are welcome as observers. It is important that IFDS is involved in the decision making process through the key committees. IFDS can still put submissions direct to the ISAF Executive Committee but it is important that IFDS have voting rights. The more involved that IFDS is with the variety of ISAF Committees the better, as most committee chairs welcome contributions from observers. IFDS has many friends in the ISAF Committees but IFDS needs to build relationships with all committee chairs. Aim to have 10% of discussion to

be about disabled sailing, raising awareness of IFDS and its sailor group.

**Decision**

**CAN moved that the Canadian Yachting Association prepare a motion for the 2010 ISAF Annual Meetings regarding IFDS representation on key ISAF Committees and potentially ISAF Council. Draft proposal/s to be done in consultation with the IFDS Executive Committee. Seconded IRL. In favour 9. Opposed 0. Carried.**

**It was agreed that the IFDS Executive Committee would revisit the committee lists that VPs and committee chairs attend.**

**Exec**

(b) Thanks

President Linda Merkle expressed her thanks to other IFDS VPs and Committee members for their help through her year as President.

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

.....