



The Team Racing Sub-Committee met at 14:30 – 18:00 hours on Tuesday 8 November 2011 at the Caribe Hilton Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico

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Present:

Alfredo Ricci (ITA) - Chairman
Tomasz Holc – Vice-President
Peter Barclay (PER)
Nicholas Hutton (AUS)
Robert Leclercq (BEL)
Steven Wrigley (USA)

Apologies:

Jan Krejcirik (CZE)
Ulrich Finckh (GER)
Bruce Hebbert (GBR)

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone and passed on the apologies of Ulrich Finckh, Bruce Herbert and Jan Krejcirik who could not attend the session. He announced that there would be a close session at 4.30 pm

Thomas Holc summarized the very successful Team Race World Championships held in Skull Ireland. Exciting footage and photographs were collected and will be available to be used for ISAF media presentations in the future.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(a) Minutes

The committee noted the minutes of the Team Racing Sub-committee meeting of November 2010. The minutes can be downloaded at www.sailing.org/meetings

(b) Minutes Matters Arising

It was noted that Jan Krejcirik did not attend the meeting in 2010.

3. ISAF Team Racing World Championship 2011

(a) To receive an update from the Technical Delegate on the 2011 ISAF Team Racing World Championship to be held in Scull, Ireland from 27 August to 4 September 2011.

The committee noted the report from the ISAF Technical Delegate. The organisation of the championship in Schull was of exceptional standard. The championship did finish one day early due to a storm. This was accomplished by having two round robins instead of three, as initially planned.

The chairman extended the committee's gratitude to the organising committee for hosting the 2011 World Championship.

(b) Report Matters Arising

Team Racing Sub-committee Agenda (cont.)

Discussions were held about the event manual which is in need of updating as well as the need for a standardized template for both the notice of race and sailing instructions.

A brief report regarding the participation of the team from Thailand (Optimist Team Racing World Champion) in the Youth Championship Division. This was a successful direction and it is recommended that this be done again.

The youth event had 8 teams and it was felt that it was successful.

Top 3 teams from the Youths went on to the quarter finals. Additional formats should be reviewed for the future. The idea of mixing the youth and open is a good direction, but the concept should be reviewed and fine tuned.

Regatta feedback: The numbers of umpires present at the event seems to be very high and as a result added expenses to the organizers. In addition this also seems to add to the number of motorboats of the field of play. Not an environmental friendly direction.

Peter Barclay addresses the need to have the necessary number of umpires to insure the quality and fairness of the championship and that we should be careful not to reduce the quantity of umpires for the sake of it.

The single flag system was used at this year's championship which is not part of the rewrite of Appendix D (Team Racing) of the Racing Rules.

It was decided that the above should be reviewed in further detail.

For a championship we should have a commentator and media coverage as a very high priority at the next Worlds.

It will be important to insure the event can be easily seen by spectators and the media from the shore.

4. Future Championships

The Sub-committee considered future championships strategy and venues.

The process for future Championship bids is now open and posted on the ISAF website. Another e- reminder will be sent after Perth 2011.

The Chairman has been told to expect a possible bid from the United States, but no specifics are available at this time.

5. Team Racing Sub-committee: Strategy & Objectives for 2009-2012

(a) Objectives and Strategy

The Chairman of the Events Committee, Chris Atkins, opened a discussion on the future of the World Team Racing Championship with the question:

What is the value of team racing to the sport of sailing and to ISAF?

Skull demonstrated how team racing brings diversity to the sport of sailing. There is excitement as well as an appeal from the sport to all ages.

It presents an opportunity for expanded exciting media coverage.

A goal of promoting youth racing around the world should be developed and it would to the betterment of all to have our young sailors give up one weekend to go team racing.

It was felt that this strategy should be the purpose of the Team Racing Worlds and the Team Race Subcommittee.

If so what can ISAF do to contribute to this diversity?

Team Racing Sub-committee Agenda (cont.)

Nick Hutton presented an overview of the WP and their suggested development of an approach to the future of team racing direction. A general description of 2K (two on two teams), 3K (3 on 3 teams) and 4K (4 on 4 teams) racing was discussed.

It was discussed that not all of these disciplines should necessarily lead to a given World Championship.

The sub-committee noted the development of keelboat TR and the success of the recent Batavia regatta. We look forward to news on future international keelboat TR regattas.

(b) Youth and Junior Team Racing

To discuss promotion of Youth and Junior Team Racing.

Volvo is having team racing clinics at each of its stopovers. Supported by a full blown media campaign.

8 teams selected by the country (some run a competition to pick the teams).

8 umpires from UITs to certified umpires are assembled. The teams have each a specific sponsor and each is linked to one of the race boats racing around the world.

Would like to make this a television sport and the audience that are present.

It is hoped that the Volvo Academy will continue with the next Volvo race in 2 years time.

Youth team racing presentation: Our youth involvement should be our drive for the future. The only possible sticking point (and our challenge) might be the cost of going.

Find ways to keep the youth programs going and it was thought that this should be high school and/or college driven

Discussion took place as to how can the TRSC can assist in to develop this direction around the world. Look at Regions or Regional regattas.

Peter Barclay presented the view that team racing is much more user friendly to media presentations. More exciting with continuous action.

Discussion were held on some to the challenges facing the start up of youth team racing...the selection of the boats, cost to attract.

Is there away to have experienced countries to provide the expertise to the newer team racing countries? How can the TRSC provide the contacts?

(c) Promotion of Team Racing through Class Associations and MNAs

To identify opportunities for the promotion of Team Racing through Class Associations

ISAF Vice-President Tomasz Holc recommends that the TRSC develop a very specific set of goals and a path forward to achieve those objectives.

Discuss were the various opportunities that team racing provides to attract new sailors and new MNAs

6. Team Racing Documents

(a) Standard Documents

As discussed above, it was noted the needs to develop and make available on the web, standard documents, NORs, Sis and competition formats.

(b) Race Management Manual

Team Racing Sub-committee Agenda (cont.)

The Team Race Manual is almost finished and will be available soon.

7. Umpires

(a) Seminars and Clinics

To discuss the proposed schedule for holding ISAF Team Racing Seminars and Clinics.

Discussions were held regarding the development of clinics which could be distributed to interested MNAs. Clinic instructor should be developed as well.

Possibly work with the IUSC to have umpires lead these clinics

(b) Manual and Rapid Response Group

To review the Umpires and Team Racing Manual and the operations of the Rapid Response Group.

As discussed in 6 (b)

8. Any Other Business

A general discussion was centred on the need for the Team Race Sub Committee to expand its focus to include the development of team racing globally as well as retaining the current focus on the Championship.

There is a need to develop the tools for this to happen and the method by which there can be in depth introductions to MNAs and other groups who would be able to initiate such a development.

The tools would have to be in place as the plan to distribute is prepared.