

The IFDS Development Seminar took place at 0930-1130 hours on Monday 7 November 2011 in the Flamboyant Meeting Room at the Caribe Hilton Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Present:

IFDS Representatives

Caterina Gouleliou-Tsantilis, Chair, IFDS Development Committee

Linda Merkle, IFDS President

Bernard Destrubé, IFDS Vice-President, Chair, IFDS Medical Committee

Wilfried Klein, IFDS Vice-President

Henry Sleutel, IFDS Vice-President; IFDS Technical Committee

Costas Tsantilis, IFDS Vice-President, Technical Delegate, 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competition

John Twomey, IFDS Vice-President, Chair, IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission

Betsy Alison, Chair, IFDS Coaches Commission

David Staley, Chair, IFDS Governance & Procedures Committee

Brian Todd, IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission

Peter Wood, IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission

Emma Little – IFDS/ISAF Disabled Sailing Administrator

Attendees

Xinzu Gu (CHN)

Anna Ólöf Kristófersdóttir (ISL)

Rob Clark (GBR)

Rich Percy (GBR)

Martin Wadhams (GBR)

Pip Woods (GBR)

Katsumi Shibamura (JPN)

Makoto Venutsu (JPN)

Jinyoung Hong (KOR)

Anna 'Olaf Kristofersdottir (POL)

Julio Requero (PUR)

Abdur Rehman Arshad (QAT)

Dan Jaspers, ISAF Training & Development Manager

IFDS Development Committee Member Caterina Gouleliou-Tsantilis welcomed all participants and opened the meeting.

IFDS President Linda Merkle was introduced and a background about IFDS and how she became involved in sailing for people with disabilities was given.

Information about Blind Sailing was given and this included details about the varying degrees of visual acuity and how athletes with limited vision can take part in sailing. Henry Sleutel talked about the bleeping devices which are used to determine whether to round buoys to Port or Starboard.

A brief description about adaptations was given and how these are made to enable people with disabilities to sail independently.

The process which IFDS uses to assess the functional ability of athletes with disabilities was discussed.

IFDS Development Seminar Notes

When holding an event for people with disabilities, a number of items should be considered. These include;

1. Car parking facilities;
2. Height of the notice boards;
3. Access to the water (Is the surface suitable for wheelchairs);
4. Ramps to the pontoons.

Those present were reminded that should anyone have any queries and require further information then they should contact the ISAF Disabled Sailing Administrator or view the website www.sailing.org/disabled

Decision

It was agreed that a summary of how adaptations can be implemented in clubs, training centres and schools would be compiled for use by the ISAF Training and Development Manager.

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