



# 2007

## Annual Report

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### International Association for Disabled Sailing

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## IFDS President's Report

The International Association for Disabled Sailing has had a very productive 12 months.

Highlight of the year was the IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championships held in Rochester, New York. With the debut of the SKUD 18 at this event bringing greater numbers of women and severely disabled sailors, and increased numbers of nations participating, Rochester was the biggest ever IFDS Worlds.

Paralympic classes are now regular fleets at an increasing number of ISAF graded events around the world. Fleet and match racing championships have been held for blind & vision impaired sailors, along with a number of development events such as the international multihull championship held in Greece. Sailing was introduced into Asian Regional Paralympic competition at the FESPIC Games in Malaysia last November and this will be continued through involvement in the Asian Para Games in the future.

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).

In conjunction with the IFDS Worlds, a classification seminar was conducted in Rochester, attracting 12 trainees from 8 nations.

A development seminar was conducted in Portugal earlier in the year, and disability awareness workshops for event managers and race officials have been conducted in Malaysia and China.

In the year to come, there are many projects that the IFDS Executive and committees wish to progress, and on which the IFDS seeks the cooperation of ISAF staff, committees and officials.

Introduction of a ranking system for sailors with a disability is a priority. We trust this can be readily integrated within the existing ISAF system. It is worth noting there are already a number of blind sailors, competing in ISAF graded events and sailing under Appendix CBS, who are already included within the World Match Race Rankings.





The Paralympic Sailing Competition will be held in Qingdao from September 8-13, 2008. In advance of this, the final Nations Qualifier for the Two-Person Keelboat will be held in Singapore during March, and an International Regatta for all the Paralympic disciplines will be conducted in Qingdao during May.

Future events for sailors with a disability include the IFDS Multihull World Championships in Cascais in July 2008, Blind Match Racing Championships in Venice in September, and Integrated Blind Fleet Racing in Rotorua, New Zealand in March 2009. A number of other events are in the planning stages.

IFDS always looks to ISAF for technical assistance and advice about recognized classes, with race officials and identifying development opportunities. A close working relationship with ISAF is essential to the success of IFDS and of promoting the inclusion of sailors with a disability within all levels of the mainstream sport.

The successes of the past year have been a result of the efforts of many people. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the volunteer members of all the IFDS Committees listed on the following pages, to the ISAF professional staff, and all those who have contributed to the organisation over the last 12 months.

**Serge Jorgensen**  
IFDS President



**IFDS Executive Committee**

Serge Jorgensen (USA) - IFDS President  
David Irish (USA) - ISAF Vice-President  
Linda Merkle (USA) - IFDS Vice-President, Secretary  
Jan Romme (NED) - IFDS Vice-President, Treasurer  
Gustaf Fresk (SWE) - IFDS Vice-President  
David Staley (AUS) - IFDS Vice-President  
John Twomey (IRL) - IFDS Vice-President

**IFDS Medical Committee**

Jürgen Schwittai (GER) - Chairman, IFDS International Classifier  
Stephen Wilson (AUS) – Head of Classification, IFDS International Classifier  
Anders Christian Bautz Gundersen (NOR)  
Bernard Destrubé (FRA) - IFDS International Classifier  
Jenny Molson (CAN) - IFDS International Classifier  
Itzhak (Tzaki) Siev-Ner (ISR) - IFDS International Classifier  
Charles Simpson (CAN) - IFDS International Classifier

**IFDS Classification Sub-Committee**

Stephen Wilson (AUS) – Chairman, Head of Classification  
Peter Anastassiadis (AUS) – IFDS International Classifier  
Sue Parry (GBR) – IFDS International Classifier

**IFDS International Classifiers**

Anne Allen (USA)  
Benedict Tan Chi' Loong (SIN)

**IFDS Development Committee**

Pauline Harrison (GBR) - Chairperson  
Emma Hallén (SWE)  
Serge Jorgensen (USA)  
Jackie Kay (AUS)  
Frankie Thanapal Sinniah (SIN)

**IFDS Fundraising Committee**

Baroness Kiki de Escury (NED) - Chairperson  
David Cook (CAN)  
Serge Jorgensen (USA)  
Jan Romme (NED)

**IFDS Technical Committee**

Colin Johanson (AUS) - Chairman  
Keith Burhans (AUS)  
Hugh Elliot (USA)  
Gene Hinkel (USA)  
Antero Karjalainen (FIN)  
Linda Merkle (USA)  
Henry Sleutel (NED)

**IFDS Measurement & Classes Committee**

Gene Hinkel (USA) - Chairman

Marko Dahlberg (FIN) - Vice Chairman

International Measurers:

- Gene Hinkel (USA)
- Stefan Ryott (SWE)
- Hakan Kellner (SWE)

Paralympic Class Representatives:

- 2.4mR - Marko Dahlberg (FIN)
- SKUD 18 - David Cook (CAN) & John Figgures (GBR)
- Sonar - Paul Callahan (USA) & Mark Rushell (GBR)

**IFDS Technical Advisors**

Gene Hinkel (USA) - Technical Advisor, Sonar Class

Stefan Ryott (SWE) - Technical Advisor, 2.4mR Class

**IFDS Rules & Regulations Committee**

Serge Jorgensen (USA) - Chairman

Dick Farkas (USA)

David Staley (AUS)

**IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission**

John Twomey (IRL) - Chairman

Bill Abbot (USA)

Gustaf Fresk (SWE)

Bernard Destrubé (FRA)

**IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission**

Ian Harrison (GBR) - Chairman

Betsy Alison (USA)

Pauline Harrison (GBR)

Colin Johanson (AUS)

John McRoberts (CAN)

Linda Merkle (USA)

Jürgen Schwittai (GER)

David Staley (AUS)

**IFDS Sailors Advisory Council**

Bento Amaral (POR) - Chairman

Colin Harrison (AUS)

Bob Jones (USA)

Maureen McKinnon-Tucker (USA)

Masaru Otsuka (JPN)

Zoltan Pegan (HUN)

Ademir Periera (BRA)

John Robertson (GBR)

Hannah Stodel (GBR)

Masakazu Suto (JPN)

**IFDS Coaches Commission**

Betsy Alison (USA) - IFDS Coaches Commission Chairperson



## IFDS Coaches Commission

There have been increased participation levels of disabled sailors world-wide in 2007.

In order to assist with planning for national teams, the Commission encourages the IFDS Executive Committee and IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission to strive to finalize event venues for IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championships several years in advance.

Other issues addressed by the Commission included:

- A ranking system for sailors with a disability.
- Issues with the quality control and supply of SKUD 18s.
- Heat related issues for athletes competing at the 2008 Paralympic Games.

Currently there are no IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championships scheduled during a Paralympic Year. The coaches have asked that IFDS reconsider this in order to increase participation levels prior to a Paralympic Sailing Competition.

It is planned that two meetings of the Coaches Commission will be held during 2008.

### **Betsy Alison**

IFDS Coaches Commission Chairperson



## IFDS Development Committee

The Development Committee works on behalf of IFDS to develop disabled sailing world-wide by working with ISAF Member National Authorities, the EUROSAF Network, and responding to enquiries relating to disabled sailing.

During the past 12 months, members of the Committee have been involved in:

- The FESPIC Games Regatta, sailed in the Access classes and involving a number of newly developing sailing nations from South East Asia
- Conducting disability awareness and development forums in a number of locations in Asia and Europe
- Developing content for the IFDS Sailing Manual
- Reviewing the IFDS Website structure

Partly as a result of the efforts of the Committee, IFDS membership has increased, sailing programs are being established in new countries and more individuals have the opportunity to participate in our sport.

### Pauline Harrison

IFDS Development Committee Chairperson





## IFDS Medical Committee

Athletes had a number of opportunities to receive an IFDS International Classifications:

- Miami OCR, USA, January 2007 - Sonar, SKUD18, 2.4mR
- Hyeres, FRA, May 2007 - Sonar, 2.4mR
- Berlin, GER, May 2007 - Sonar, 2.4mR
- Multihull Championship, Volos, GRE, July 2007 - Challenger
- IFDS Worlds 2007, Rochester, USA, September 2007 - Sonar, SKUD18, 2.4mR

Other activities of the Medical Committee during 2007 included:

- The success of the IFDS International Classification Seminar that was held in conjunction with the IFDS Disabled Sailing World Championship, in the USA.
- Involvement in the development of the IPC Classification Code.
- A review of the IFDS Functional Classification System to ensure it adheres to the requirements detailed in the IPC Classification Code.
- Progressing development of a database to record IFDS athlete information.
- The classification requirements for athletes competing in the 2008 Paralympic Sailing Competition was reviewed.

All athletes and national teams are reminded that they can be tested by the World Anti-Doping Agency for taking banned substances at any time. If athletes are taking any banned medication, either prescribed by a doctor or obtained 'over the counter' they should obtain a dispensation (TUE) from ISAF.

### Jürgen Schwittai

IFDS Medical Committee Chairman



## **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.

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

Following confirmation of the Evaluation Criteria, the committee would be proceeding to evaluate single-person and three-person equipment for the 2012 and 2016 Paralympic Sailing Competitions. The process will result in recommendations being made to IFDS ahead of the 2008 Annual General Meeting.

### **John Twomey**

IFDS Equipment Evaluation Commission Chairman

## **IFDS Sailors Advisory Council**

The IFDS Sailors Advisory Council was re-constituted at the 2007 World Disabled Sailing Championships in Rochester, New York, USA. The Council will provide comment and feedback on relevant issues being considered by the IFDS Executive.

The members are:

Bento AMARAL (POR) – Acting Chairman  
Colin HARRISON (AUS)  
Bob JONES (USA)  
Masakazu SUTO (JPN)  
Maureen MCKINNON-TUCKER (USA)  
Zoltan PEGAN (HUN)  
Ademir PERIERA (BRA)  
John ROBERTSON (GBR)  
Hannah STODEL (GBR)

## **IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission**

### **2007**

- 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.
- 8-13 September - Paralympic Regatta Qingdao

### **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. Tonsberg, Norway and Qingdao, China are being considered as possible alternatives.

### **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.

**Ian Harrison**

IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission Chairman

## IFDS Technical Committee

During 2007 the IFDS Race Management Manual document has been revised and updated, however this is an ongoing task. The review of Parts II and III of the Manual will be co-ordinated with the Events Committee and the contribution of experienced IFDS Technical Delegates is being sought. Henry Sleutel and Hugh Elliot are tackling the job of revising the Rules of Race Management in order that the changes can take effect for 2009-2012.

A Technical Committee representative is a required member of the Adaptations Committee at World Championships, where there is considerable cooperation with the Classifiers, Measurers and Technical Delegates involved. Safety and reliability are major issues in addition to compliance with Class Rules. The Technical Committee has proposed the development of an Adaptations Database in order to streamline approvals at major events.

The range of seating modifications for the SKUD 18 and in a number of the developing classes have increased significantly. The volume and complexity of these adaptations could become an issue, where the Committee has responsibility for assessing the functional and safety aspects at International Events.

With a trend toward conducting a larger number of races at events in recent years, the Committee has highlighted the need to ensure the on-water time limits are observed in order to protect the well-being of the athletes.

### Colin Johanson

IFDS Technical Committee Chairman





## IFDS Treasurers Report

From the Income & expenditure sheet 2007 one could easily draw the conclusion that the IFDS finance has sailed into heavy weather. The year ended with a deficit of €16.682. This would be an alarming situation if no compensating factors could be brought to the table. The fact is that a lot of amounts that were promised in writing in 2007 or for which 2007 invoices were outstanding had been received early 2008. This included, for instance, amounts for boat fees and two substantial gifts from two foundations. The balance between the accounts receivable and the accounts payable was €18.645. If this had been taken into account, the IFDS would have closing the 2007 books with a small profit of €1.963. All of this is reflected in the Balance Sheet 2007 that shows that our total assets grew from €24.989 in 2006 to €27.039 in 2007.

I reported last year that the financial structure started to look healthier due to the fact that the membership is increasing and we are getting a steady flow of income out of classification fees. This situation has continued in 2007. However, I am slightly concerned about the overspending on various items and late payments in the financial year.

In the past we have been able to budget our operation better than recently. This can partly be explained due to the fact that the activities but also the number of people involved are on the increase. We also see an increase in the speed of developments and this asks for more and quicker responses. This often results in unforeseen costs.

The Executive Committee has addressed this problem because it is essential importance to maintain the grip on our finances. There is a need for a more precise budgeting process. This means that all involved in the IFDS operation must plan further ahead. Although this is not easy in such a widespread, international organisation, it is of importance that we maintain tighter budgetary control. This demands for more discipline from everybody.

It should also be mentioned that a lot of the volunteers involved in the IFDS Executive and other committees pay a large part of the costs involved to be active for IFDS out of their own pocket. We are very grateful for that fact.

Last but not least I want to thank the ISAF for their great help and support in helping Treasurer out in the execution of his task. This makes life a lot easier if one also has other business commitments.

**Jan Romme**  
IFDS Treasurer



## IFDS Balance Sheet

As of 31st December 2007

### CURRENT ASSETS

Savings Account	€	5,571
ING Bank	€	2,823
Accounts Receivable	€	20,484
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>28,878</b>

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	€	1,839
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>1,839</b>

<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>27,039</b>
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### EQUITY

Opening Balance Equity	€	25,286
Retained Earnings	€	18,435
Net Income	€	16,682-
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>27,039</b>



## IFDS Finances

1st January - 31st December 2007

Income & Expenditure			
	Actual 2007	Budget 2007	Budget 2008
<b>1 Income</b>			
2 Membership Fees	€ 16,639	€ 16,000	€ 20,000
3 IPC Contributions	€ 11,774	€ 8,000	€ 8,000
4 Seminars			
5 Classification Fees	€ 3,697	€ 5,000	€ 5,000
6 Boat Building Fees			€ 10,000
7 Donations	€ 116	€ 10,000	€ 5,000
8 Miscellaneous Income			
<b>Total:</b>	<b>€ 32,226</b>	<b>€ 39,000</b>	<b>€ 48,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
9 Executive Committee	€ 22,188	€ 15,000	€ 20,000
10 Medical Committee	€ 8,212	€ 6,000	€ 3,000
11 Development Committee	€ 2,272	€ 1,500	€ 7,500
12 Equipment Evaluation Committee		€ 1,000	€ 3,000
13 Technical Committee		€ 500	€ 500
14 Events Committee		€ 500	€ 500
15 Technical Delegates Paralympics	€ 3,861		€ 2,000
16 Secretariat	€ 3,633	€ 2,000	€ 3,000
17 Annual General Meeting	€ 1,420		€ 2,000
18 Seminars			€ 1,000
19 Telephone Conferences	€ 669	€ 1,500	€ 2,000
20 Subscriptions	€ 436	€ 300	€ 500
21 Event Expenses	€ 1,470	€ 1,000	€ 1,000
22 Legal Fees		€ 1,000	
23 Accountant	€ 339	€ 500	€ 500
24 Public Relations	€ 3,815	€ 1,000	€ 1,000
25 Bank Charges	€ 500	€ 500	€ 500
26 Miscellaneous Expenses	€ 93		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>€ 48,908</b>	<b>€ 32,300</b>	<b>€ 48,000</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>€ 6,700</b>	<b>€ -</b>
<b>Net Deficit</b>	<b>€ 16,682</b>		

## Notes on IFDS Finances 2007

### ACTUAL INCOME

- 1 Membership fees - Remained stable.
- 2 IPC Contributions - Higher due to the fact that the €3390 contribution 2006 had been received in 2007.
- 5 Classification fees - Lower because a 2007 amount of €1236 had been received early 2008.
- 6 Boat building fees - 2006 and 2007 amounts of a total of €4.475 had been received early 2008.
- 7 Donations - Amounts from two foundations totaling €12.574 and that had been allocated to IFDS in 2007 and been received early 2008.

### ACTUAL EXPENDITURE

- 9 Executive Committee - Overspending due to unforeseen consultations with ISAF and other Paralympic related matters.
- 10 Medical committee - Overspending due to the purchase of a data base system.
- 11 Development Committee - Overspending due to an increased activity of the Development Committee.
- 12 Equipment Evaluation Committee – Under-spending due to costs being paid in 2008.
- 15 Technical Delegates Paralympics - Not all costs were met by the Chinese organisers of our Technical Delegates Team consisting of three persons.
- 16 Secretariat - Overspending due to the renewal of our bookkeeping program licenses and secretarial assistance at major events.
- 24 Public Relations - In the financial year a number of items have been produced for public relations purposes.