

**IFDS Events & Scheduling Commission, Peter Wood**

I was appointed the chair of the Events & Scheduling Commission in April 2010 taking over from Ian Harrison who had held the position for many years. For those who don't know me I have been involved in disabled sailing in Canada since 1990, served on the ISAF Training and Development Committee between 2001 and 2004 and have held senior staff positions at the Canadian Yachting Association including serving as interim Executive Director in 2008 & 2009. I am a National Canadian Sailing Judge and actively sail a 2.4mR and J-24.

**Combined World Championships 2011 -2015**

Hosts organizing committees and venues have been approved by the IFDS Executive Committee for the 2011, 2012 and 2014 Combined IFDS World Championships.

**2011** - 1-9 July 2011, Weymouth, GBR with Costas Tsantilis as the Technical Delegate;

**2012** - 9-16 January 2012, the combined IFDS World Championships will be held 9-16 January in Port Charlotte, Florida, USA with Henry Sleutel as the technical delegate. This will be followed by the 2012 Miami OCR 22-27 January 2012.

**2013** - Two organizing authorities have expressed interest in hosting the IFDS Combined World Championships; Qindao, China and the Kinsale Yacht Club, Southern Ireland. Formal applications have yet to be received.

**2014** - The Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron, Halifax Nova Scotia, CAN has formally submitted an application to host the IFDS Combined World Championships. The application was received and approved by the IFDS Executive Committee in July 2010. The Technical Delegate has yet to be selected although names are under consideration.

**2015** - Ideally the IFDS Combined World Championships will be hosted at the same venue as the sailing events of the 2016 Paralympic Sailing Competition. In the near future IFDS will need to make contact with the organizers of the sailing events of the 2016 Paralympic Games to confirm that they are prepared to host the 2015 IFDS Combined World Championships as a test event of the facilities and organization.

The St Petersburg Yacht Club, Florida, USA has expressed an interest in hosting the 2013, 2014 or 2016 IFDS Combined World Championships. As the 2014 IFDS Combined World have been awarded to the Royal Nova Scotia, Canada and the 2012 IFDS Combined World Championships have been awarded to Port Charlotte, Florida, USA then I think it would be appropriate that the 2013 combined worlds be held on a continent other than North America.

**Blind Sailing Championships**

IFDS has submitted a proposal to the International Paralympic Committee for the inclusion of a sailing event in the 2016 Paralympics. The event would be match racing format using Sonars. In 2010 the inaugural World Match Racing Championship for blind sailing was successfully held at Bogliaco on Lake Garda, Italy, 20-27 June 2010 in Meteor sailboats.

In 2011 The Homerus Blind Sailing Association will be hosting an IFDS International Championship in Perth, Australia, 20-26 March 2011. This event has been sanctioned by IFDS and David Staley has been appointed the Technical Delegate.

We will be watching closely the format of the Homerus Match racing event as this will most likely be the basis for the new blind sailing event IFDS wishes added to the Paralympic Sailing Competition.

**Looking Forward**

IFDS needs to formalize their procedures for seeking hosts for the various International and World

Championships. The process needs to be formally defined with notices sent to all Recognized National Authorities advising them of available events and deadlines for submitting applications. IFDS also needs to establish the role of International Events under its jurisdiction. In the past IFDS has sanctioned an International Trap-Seat championship sailed in Hobie 16's. This event has not been held for the past few years and there does not appear to be any expressions of interest to host this event in the near future. Should we be actively seeking hosts or quietly dropping the event from our roster of events?