

IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee, Gene Hinkel

There has been activity within in the 2.4mR and SKUD18 Classes but no new issues have arisen within the Sonar class.

2.4mR - The goal and proposal of creating a class One Design was defeated, despite the best effort of Peter Wilson. As a result, we will use Appendix K as the rule since it has worked and is tighter than the open rule. This has proven to work as the last two Open World Champions are also IFDS Paralympic medal winners. There are still issues within the class that are being sorted out, mainly with weight and a measurement problem concerning sail battens, but with the new President, these will be resolved very soon.

SKUD18 - The class Technical Committee is busy with an update on Class Rule refinements which will be submitted to the IFDS in time for the AGM. The measurement data is almost complete and I will finish that up at the Miami OCR. So far the old and new boats are the same measurement wise and we increased the weight to 400 kilos to allow the boats to be built to last.

In Medemblik the sails were studied and now will have measurements set up to include all sails. A couple of the older boats now have been updated to the look of the new boats with the rolled deck; Scott Whitman's boat is the first US boat to have this done and will be at the OCR with the new Selden mast and sails.

The builder has proposed working with me in St Pete after the OCR to update any older boat to the new look. This also means we can verify that floatation was installed and deck supports added as needed.

Sonar - No changes, but there is new interest from several countries in new boats, from either the US or the UK builder.

Another issue concerning Spinnakers with the flags for use in the 2012 Paralympic Sailing Competition was raised. North Sails will present a letter this month from their One Design team as they have just been the first US Sailmaker to get ISAF In-House Certification and can bring to the table the UK loft for service.

The Americas Regatta in St. Pete in December is shaping up with several sailors arranging charters.