

IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee – Gene Hinkel

Sonar

Nothing really new to report as the TC has detailed the Band on deck for aft crew. Due to Qingdao and other events that too will be changed later on but does keep the field level. The ISCA is working with us on other changes for future so they in part of the overall class Rules

SKUD18

Now the games are over the SKUD18 TC has the chance and time to resolve the many loopholes in the early draft of the rules. The Rules and mainly Measurement procedure now will be brought up to date with actual measurement certificates based on the data collected to set the limits at each point. Despite all the hand wringing about the GBR seat it was not the breakthrough they had hoped. The TC was able to insist on side and back limits which worked.

I for one need a breather for a couple weeks before David and gang start this. I had good talks with Chris in Qingdao and feel they are on the right track for future boats with some changes in construction that will neither affect older boats not effect any sailing advantage for new boats Also had the chance to discuss where the class should be headed with the teams and coaches to get a better perspective from the people that actually sail the boats

2.4mR

Thanks to Stefan I feel the issues faced by the 2.4mR concerning floatation are put to rest. With the Measurement procedure that all have worked on since Denmark there is no room for any boat to alter shape or add weight. The OA in Qingdao provided a Water Test Tank which simply proved this point with only one boat that had to move a battery not the lead as many were saying. Since this was a surprise and only added after all the boats had arrived in Qingdao it proved that the boats are in fact one-design under the appendix K measurements. Thes threw one boat out and the team had to provide another.

I have prepared a report to ISAF and will be sending to the IFDS EC but from my prespective the Sonar and 2.4mR proved they are ideal Paralympic boats since the results in boat classes came down to the last race and in case of the Sonar the last 100 metres. I have never seen races where there were four boats overlapped at the finish like we saw in Qingdao which only showed the tactics involved with the whisker pole in both classes. We almost had a three way tie for the Gold. This is level racing at its best