

## **MINUTES – EMPIRICAL HANDICAP SUB-COMMITTEE**



A Session of the Empirical Handicap Sub-Committee of the International Sailing Federation was held at 1430 – 1800 on Sunday 5th November 2006 at the Scandic Grand Marina Congress Centre, Helsinki Finland.

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#### Present:

Nils Nordenstrøm (Chairman)

Daniel Pillons acting Vice-Chairman

Ken Kershaw

Carlos Gastelu

Paul Ansfield (part time)

#### Apologies:

Miguel Rosa

Denis Kiely

#### Also Present

Philip Tolhurst, Chairman Offshore Committee

Norbert Marin (ISAF Technical Co-ordinator)

*Please refer to the ISAF Offshore Committee minutes and ISAF Council minutes of 11-12 November 2006 for the **final Council** decision on all recommendations and opinions contained within these minutes.*

The chairman commented on the tragic loss of Gunnar Skogby, who was one of the founders of the committee, who served as vice chairman during the first years of operation, and who contributed greatly to the progress of the committee. A silent moment was held to honor the memory of Gunnar Skogby

### **1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

#### Minutes

The minutes were approved earlier by correspondence, and there were no further comments.

### **2. STATUS REPORTS**

Status reports were received from Argentina, England, France, Norway and Sweden. The amount of empirical handicapping is increasing or stabilizing among the Countries reporting.

### **3. EMPIRICAL HANDICAPPING WORLD WIDE.**

The chairman presented an overview of empirical handicapping world wide. The presented number of empirically handicapped boats racing in the UK should be corrected to about 11,000. New information from observers from Estonia and Japan will be added. It is anticipated that the number of boats participating in empirically

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handicapped regattas will increase substantially from about 63,000 in the presented overview.

### **4. STANDARD PARAMETERS AND NOTATION FOR DESCRIPTION OF BOATS**

Submission 058-06 and the supporting information were presented and discussed. The chairman of the Offshore Committee presented a plan to establish a working party to fulfil the objectives of the submission, and suggested that a workshop be arranged in March 2007 with people from the relevant parties inside and outside of the ISAF. Members were very pleased with this initiative.

### **5. STRATEGIC PLAN**

It was decided that the "measurement platform" should be closely linked to the workshop mentioned in item 4.

### **6. PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL TOPICS**

The chairman presented some topics for discussion:

- methods to set handicapping numbers
- the use of statistical data, with emphasis on the need for data from many
- races over several years
- the use of measurements as background for certificates.

### **7. LISTED EMPIRICAL HANDICAP SYSTEMS**

No applications were received.

### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE OFSHORE COMMITTEE**

It is recommended that the working party according to Submission 058-06 and the workshop proposed by the chairman of the Offshore committee should be implemented.

There being no further business the meeting was concluded.