ISAF Classes Committee Minutes

The ISAF Classes Committee meet at 09:30 – 18:00 hours on 7 November 2009 at the Paradise Hotel, Busan, Korea

Please refer to the ISAF website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda/referred to in these minutes.

1. Opening of the Meeting
   The Chairman welcomed all the members who in turn introduced themselves.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
   Minutes
The minutes of the ISAF Classes Committee meeting of 8 November 2008 were noted and signed.

Minutes Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

3. Submissions

Deferred submission 084-08 – 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition – Events

Ceri Williams felt that the choice of Olympic Events was important for all ISAF Classes and that the Committee should be entitled to have a view on Olympic Events policy. For instance, he felt that the Committee might have a useful view on matters such as 50% of events for women.

The Chairman explained that past practice of the Classes Committee was to avoid commenting on the selection of Events or Equipment, though he noted that the Committee’s terms of Reference were silent on the matter.

Steve Proffitt felt that the Committee might well support the general principle that they would like as many different facets of the sailing seen in clubs and classes around the world to be included in the Olympic Sailing Competition.

The Chairman advised that there is a structure for dealing with the issues at the Events and Equipment Committee. The ISAF Classes Committee should be careful what issues it comments on, as its ability to get its views across is diluted by commenting on all submissions.

On a proposal by Richard Hart, seconded by Rory Ramsden it was agreed on a vote of 12 in favour, 3 abstentions and 4 against to stick with the existing policy of not commenting on Olympic matters relating to selection of events or equipment.

147-08 - RRS 89 – Organising Authority

The Committee noted deferred submission 147-08 from the Royal Yachting Association which proposed to clarify that a class association could not be an organising authority in accordance with 89.1(c).

The Chairman noted that in 2008 the Committee had proposed to reject the submission. It was noted that a re-draft had been proposed which would state that the MNA may prescribe that its approval is required or that it shall be organised in conjunction with an affiliated sailing club.

On a vote of 15 in favour, 0 against and 7 abstentions it was agreed to recommend deferring the submission.

Opinion: Defer

The ICC to make a new submission for 2010 with the agreement of the RYA and the Racing Rules Committee Chairman

002-09 - Regulation 9.3.2 – Rules of debate

The Committee noted Submission 002-09 from the UAE Sailing and Rowing Federation to amend ISAF Regulation 9.3.2 regarding Rules of Debate at the ISAF Council.

Opinion: Approve

011-09 Advertising Code - Regulation 20.1
The Committee noted Submission 011-09 from the Executive Committee regarding amendments to the ISAF Advertising Code.

**Opinion: Approve**

The ICC appreciate this is work in progress and expect further minor amendments to be made in the future and support the ongoing work

012-09 - Regulation 20.4

The Committee noted Submission 012-09 from the International Kiteboarding Association regarding Regulation 20.4.1.2 – Sailboards

**Opinion: Approve with the following amendment**

Approve in principle however amend to read 'kiteboard *hull'*

013-09 Advertising Code - Classes and Rating Systems - Regulation 20.5

The Committee noted Submission 013-0 from the Executive Committee proposing an additional clause 20.5.8. be added that requires National Class Associations to obtain written approval from the International Class before entering into a sponsorship contract.

**Opinion: Approve**

015-09 Advertising Code - Supplementary Entry Fee - Regulation 20.8

The Committee received submission 015-09 from the Executive Committee which proposed to clearly place in the Regulation the Council decision of 2005 to permit the charging of additional entry fees on boats displaying competitor advertising. It further proposed a limit of twice the regular entry fee.

It was noted that the Olympic Classes Sub-committee and Athletes Commission were not in favour of the submission.

David Staley questioned what would be the situation if the submission was rejected?

Malav Shroff felt that it was important to support the principle of the submission to cap any additional entry fees (if they were permitted).

The Chairman of the Constitution Committee noted that one of the issues raised was whether the new Advertising Code introduced in November 2008 overruled the specific Council decision of November 2005. There was a view that 20.8.2 might prohibit the charging of additional fees by anyone other than MNAs.

**Opinion: Reject**

ICC believe very strongly that there should be no additional entry fees by event organisers as this is an unacceptable burden on the sailors with personal advertising.

Regulation 20.8.2 prohibits charging additional fees except by National Authorities.

027-09 ISAF Plaque Fee Calculation - Regulation 26.3(c)

Submission 027-09 was noted from the Executive Committee to incorporate a previous Council decision.

**Opinion: Approve**

031-09 - Training Facilities at Olympic Venues

Submission 031-09 was noted from the Polish Yachting Association, the Olympic Classes Sub-committee’s view was supported.
Opinion: Approve

034-09 ISAF to Protect the Design Characteristics and Integrity of Their Classes - New Regulation

The Chairman noted that ISAF Classes are in charge of their class rules and that allowing MNAs to change the class rules in the sailing instructions defeats the whole structure of Class Rule approval by ISAF.

Sally Burnett noted that if this Submission was aimed at controlling RRS 87 – Changes to Class Rules, there are other submissions on the agenda which are relevant.

Opinion: Approve with the following amendment

"That ISAF shall further protect the design characteristics and integrity of their classes with new regulation(s) or a change to an existing regulation(s) that specifically prohibits an Organising Authority or ISAF member to organise a one design class race using substantially ISAF class equipment with all or part of that ISAF class rules amended or deleted unless that class permits such use. Such regulation(s) shall include fines and suspensions."
074-09 Windsurfers - Obtaining Designation as an International or Recognized Class - Regulation 26.2.1(e)

Submission 074-09 was noted from International Formula Windsurfing Class.

**Opinion: Approve with the following amendment**

Reduce the Windsurfing distribution requirements from 50 to 20 boats per country and ensure the Kiteboarding requirements are the same.

075-09 Class Rules Changes and Interpretation - Regulation 26

Submission 075-09 was noted from the Chairman of the the Equipment Committee.

**Opinion: Approve with the following amendment:**

Support the amendments made by the Chairman of the Constitution Committee below:

26.11 **International and Recognized Class Associations shall change their Class Rules in accordance with the following procedures (unless otherwise approved by the Equipment Committee ISAF and provided for in the agreement defined in Regulation 26.3).**

26.11.9 **Changes to manufacturing/building specification shall be made handled as per Class Rule changes except that for equipment with a confidential building specification the change shall be authorized handled by the ISAF Secretariat after consultation with the Chairman of the Class Rules Sub-committee (unless he is conflicted) instead of the Class Rules Sub-committee.**

26.12 **International and Recognized Class Associations rule interpretations shall be made in accordance with the following procedures unless otherwise provided for in the agreement defined in Regulation 26.3. Any alternative procedure shall be approved by ISAF the Equipment Committee.**

081-09 - Course Format

The Committee noted Submission 081-09 from the Hungarian Yachting Association and Russian Yachting Federation which proposed that at least one 'middle gate' on the upwind and downwind legs of race courses in Olympic Class Events and Youth Worlds.

George Wossala supported the submission, there was a need for more media exposure and for the media to understand who is in the lead.

Stanislav Kassarov noted that 470 sailors were “a little bit fed-up” with the middle gate as it reduced tactical options.

Carolijn Brouwer felt that the middle-gate could work in medal races, though it should probably not be used on the first beat.

**Opinion: Reject**

Support the reason and the principles behind the submission but recommend rejecting on the grounds that there are better ways of achieving increased media coverage without restricting tactics.

082-09 - Tracking System, Electronic Control of the Starting Line and Course

The Chairman advised that he understood from the Technology Working Party that OCS control was far from ready to be implemented.

**Opinion: Reject**
Support the intent of the submission, but recommend rejecting the submission as the systems are still far from being ready to use and still require further development, especially regarding control of start lines.

084-09 Selection of Equipment for Olympic Sailing Competition 2016 - Regulation 16.1.1(d)

**Opinion: Did not discuss**

085-09 - Appointment or Approval of Race Officers or Course Representatives
Submission 085-09 was noted from the Polish Yachting Association regarding appointment of Course Representatives for the ISAF Sailing World Cup

**Opinion: Approve**

086-09 - ISAF Sailing World Cup
Submission 086-09 was noted from the Polish Yachting Association proposing a new regulation 17.3 relating to the ISAF Sailing World Cup and standardisation of the events.

**Opinion: Approve with the following amendment:**

That the Paralympic classes are not excluded and Women's Match Racing equipment is flexible

087-09 ISAF Sailing World Cup - RS:X Class Racing Format
Submission 087-09 was noted from the RS:X Class.

**Opinion: Approve**

Provided it meets the requirements of 086-09 in that it has the same course requirements as the Olympic Sailing Competition.

088-09 - Tracking System (SWC and Grade 1/2)
Submission 088-09 was noted from the Deutscher Segler Verband proposing that a standard be established for Tracking Systems to be used at World Cup Events. There were concerns that the competitors were expected to supply the tracking devices.

**Opinion: Reject**

Support the intent of the submission, but recommend rejecting the submission as the systems are still far from being ready to use and still require further development, especially regarding control of start lines.

092-09 - Kiteboarding - Participation and World Titles
Submission 092-09 was noted from the International Kiteboarding Association proposing that Kiteboarding be added to the World Championship average minimum participation table in Regulation 18.2.1 (b).

**Opinion: Approve**

With the caveat that the requirements numbers may be subject to change.

094-09 - Classes and Equipment for the Youth Olympic Sailing Competition
Submission 094-09 was noted from Federacion Argentina de Yachting and the Yacht Club Ypacarai proposing a new regulation 16.5 detailing the selection of equipment for Youth Olympic Sailing Competitions.
Opinion: Approve

122-09 - International Measurers
Submission 122-09 was noted from the Race Officials Committee proposing the introduction of a written test in Regulation 33.13.2(b) for International Measurers.

Opinion: Approve

141-09 Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 86.1(a) Change in Compliance with Class Rules
Submission 141-09 was noted from the Royal Netherlands Yachting Union which proposed to add RRS 78.1 to the list of rules in RRS 86.1(a)

Opinion: Approve

142-09 Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 87 Change of Class Rule in NoR
Submission 142-09 was noted from the Royal Netherlands Yachting Union proposing that a change to class rules be stated in the Notice of Race.

It was agreed that in order to ensure equipment complied with the class rule change, any change would need to be in the Notice of Race.

The submission was approved with 10 in favour and 7 against.

Opinion: Approve

143-09 Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 87 Changes to Class Rules - Permission by National Class Association
Submission 143-09 was noted from the Royal Netherlands Yachting Union proposing that a national class association could give approval for class rules changes in an event where no entries are expected from other countries.

Opinion: Reject

This undermines the principles of fixed rules for ISAF classes and there should be only one authority for ISAF classes.

144-09 Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 87 Change to Class Rules in NoR
Submission 144-09 was noted from the Royal Netherlands Yachting Union proposing to insert ‘class rules authority’ in place of ‘class association’.

Opinion: Reject

The "class rules authority" does not necessarily reflect the constitutional representative of the boat owners whose interests we are seeking to protect.

4. Class Rules and Championship Rules

ISAF Classes Committee Agenda Item No. 11 - Competition Rules in Class Equipment Rules

Council Agenda Item No 16(g)

A supporting paper was received from Dick Batt and the ISAF Technical Department. David Brookes highlighted his concern that the document should be structured so that at a Class World Championship the Class Competition Rules should apply as the default position. Bill Abbott as Chairman of the Working Party felt that the document
would protect the classes rights but the style of the document was not the place for advice.

It was noted that the working party would continue with assistance from Dick Rose and Jan Dejmo.

**Recommendation to Council – Not based on Submissions**

Council Agenda Item No 16(g)

*The draft paper from the working party was supported in principle with the following amendment:*

*That the competition rules shall always apply to World Championships without notification in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions*

5. **ISAF Classes – Regulation 18 and 26**

A paper was noted from the Equipment & Events Committee Working Party regarding the rights and obligations of the various categories of ISAF Classes in Regulation 26, and the rights and responsibilities regarding Class World Championships in Regulation 18. The paper proposed to:

- simplify the regulations, eliminate inconsistencies, clarify responsibilities and processes for adherence to the regulations.
- promote the “ISAF classes” brand rather than generic labels such as “international classes” and “recognized” classes;
- ensure it is simple for classes to join the ISAF family, and to encourage and recognize growth in boat numbers, global spread, and championship fleet sizes;
- to build the status of, and establish criteria for, world and continental championships;

It was noted that Rob Weiland (TP 52/Swan 45) had submitted concerns regarding the unrealistic numbers required for large yachts and that the International 14 Class had submitted a paper highlighting issues which the Chairman would take up with the Working Party.

Dick Batt on behalf of the Working Party requested feedback on the proposed numerical requirements and any other ICC comments in time for the mid-year Equipment and Events Committees. The intention would be to circulate in May/June a revised paper in consultation with Jeff Martin and Corinne Roland-McKenzie prior to a final submission by the end of July.

Steve Profitt noted that setting the required numbers was a question of striking a balance, how many ISAF Classes / World Championships do you want? If the criteria are too low, then more classes are included under the ISAF umbrella.

Zvi Ziblat (as an observer) noted that as a member of the working party he was against IFDS Disabled Sailing being exempt from this proposal.

Ceri Williams noted that the merging of International and Recognised Class status would put more pressure on the current Recognised Classes to meet the World Championship attendance requirements.

Helen-Mary Wilkes questioned how many classes would be affected by the proposed numbers.

The Chairman agreed it would be helpful to circulate a spreadsheet showing the consequences. He noted that the proposed three year rolling average on Worlds
participation might encourage Classes not to hold events in new developing areas but to retreat to strong areas of support to guarantee required numbers.

David Sprague proposed to support the principles of the submission to simplify the existing regulations but that the numerical requirements for ISAF Class Status and World Championship attendance should be a separate submission.

The Committee noted that the annual class reports can be found at: www.sailing.org/classes

6. International Measurers and Classes: Roles and Responsibilities

A presentation was received from David Sprague on behalf of the International Measurers Sub-committee. It was noted that there are around 100 International Measurers but they only represent around 49 of the nearly 100 ISAF Classes and come from 23 nations. The vast majority of measurers were from Europe and North America, with only five from South America and four from Asia. In the quest for more measurers classes are requested to identify good technical people, promote good measurement practice, use the measurers to keep the playing field level, send Class Measurers and International Measurers to ISAF Measurer’s Conferences and encourage retired sailors to become Race Officials including International Measurers.

It was agreed that the report could be circulated to all ISAF Classes.

7. Any other Business

(a) Nacra F18

David Brookes (as the ICC Representative on the Equipment Committee) highlighted that the issue of the continued Class Status of Nacra F18 was on the Equipment Committee agenda. It was noted that the Nacra F18 had been recognised as a manufacturer’s one design in 2004 and that the manufacturer now wished to incorporate the current Infusion model within the class rules. He asked for the ICC view on this issue.

It was agreed that ISAF Classes should be treated the same and that the regulations should be applied to all classes.

(b) Governance

Vice-President Alberto Predieri advised that the Executive Committee had been discussing good governance. Their recommendation was that when a Committee Chairman is intending to make a submission, they should circulate it to their committee for comment prior to the submission deadline.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 18:06.