



The Empirical Handicap Sub-Committee met at 14:30 – 18:00 hours on Sunday 4 November 2012 at the Royal marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Ireland.

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

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Present:

Nils Nordenstrøm (Chairman)

Paul Ansfield

Xinzu Gu

Daniel Pillons

Also Present:

David Irish (Vice-president)

Norbert Marin (Technical Co-ordinator)

Apologies:

Bas Edmonds

Non Present

Riccardo Provini

Gabriel Alfredo Schroeder

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting by asking the Committee Members and observers to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(a) Minutes

The minutes of the Empirical Handicap Sub-Committee Meeting of Sunday 6 November 2011 were noted and approved. The minutes can be downloaded at www.sailing.org/meetings.

(b) No comment was made on Matters Arising.

3. Status Report

(a) NORLYS – Norway

The Chairman gave an overview of the empirical handicap status in Norway where the number of boats registered has gone down most likely due to the current worldwide crisis. On the contrary in short hand racing (double and single handed) is becoming increasingly popular.

(b) LYS – Sweden

No report was given

(c) USPHRF & North American Portsmouth

Paul Ansfield gave a general overview on USPHRF & North American Portsmouth and an update on the development of the Universal Measurement Platform. The number of sailors seems to be decreasing in some areas but increasing in others due to unknown reasons but most likely related to family issues.

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(d) **RYA Portsmouth Yardstick**

A report was given by Andy Wibroe on behalf of the RYA who commented on the similarities with USPHRF & North American Portsmouth. The scheme works well with small dinghies and catamarans but not so well with big boats.

(e) **PHRF Argentina**

Maximo Rivero Kelly gave a short report about PHRF in Argentina

(f) **HN France**

Daniel Pillons, gave an update on the OSIRIS system, that permit smart solutions to mix empirical system with predicated systems and runs well since 2008.

4. Empirical Handicapping Worldwide

The chairman gave a short overview of empirical handicapping systems worldwide.

5. Standard Parameters and Notations for Description of Boats

(a) The chairman noted that this is now in hands of the Equipment control sub-committee.

(b) The chairman gave an overview of the Empirical Handicap and Rating Systems Worldwide Survey and commented on the figures from last year.

6. Strategic Plan and Future Work

There were no comments on this topic.

7. Presentation of Special Topics

Daniel Pillons showed a presentation about the data exchanges between Empirical Handicap Systems. That re actualized rating conversions formulas. And showed how it will be useful for each system, even in English language, to translate in English, in a common tool, the main usual expressions, key words and abbreviations they use on their web access. Need less than 50 by system. Mike Urwing (observer) noted that some terms may have different meaning depending on the country, i.e. a deep keel in one language may mean a long keel in a different language.

8. Listed Empirical Handicap Systems

No further comments were made.

9. Any Other Business

There being no further business the meeting was closed.