10 REPORTS and OPINIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

(b) Empirical Handicap Sub-Committee

Report to Oceanic and Offshore Committee – November 2015

From the Chairman - Empirical Handicap Sub-Committee (Ken Kershaw)

Two subjects are currently being pursued by the Empirical Handicap Sub-Committee:-

- Standard Measurement Parameters
- ISAF Turnkey Empirical Handicap Scheme

1. Standard Measurement Parameters

The EHSC has continued to promote the standardisation of nomenclature for standard measurement parameters via the ERS Working Party on behalf of the UMS project.

This year proposals made to the ERS WP relating to the UMS have resulted some 17 formal submissions being made for changes and/or additions to the ERS definition.

In addition, further consideration was given to clarification of the previous unresolved submission relating to the method of determining headsail corner measurement points. This year a submission on the subject has been tabled by the IRC in general support of the previous GBR submission and conflicting submissions have also be tabled jointly from a number of dingy class proposing a method generally in line with an outline method previously proposals by the 470 class. It is recommended that the Oceanic and Offshore Committee support the submission from the IRC and oppose that alternative methods. That action would embrace all types of boat and be in-line with past big boat practice.

2. ISAF Turnkey Empirical Handicap Scheme

The development of the basic steps and mathematics for an ISAF Turnkey Empirical Handicap Scheme including the determination of a yacht’s initial TCF and post-race assessment and adjustment of TCFs has continued. These technical details have been lodged with the ISAF Technical office for future work should and at such time as interest from potential users is shown. The next step would involve significant computer programing.

KK - 21 October 2015