SAILOR CLASSIFICATION CODE

The Classification Commission annual Meeting formerly held at the World Sailing home office in the fall was postponed until early 2019 hoped to be scheduled in London, England. This plan was cancelled and in lieu of a face to face in person meeting, a video conference venue was proposed by the Office staff. Originally scheduled for April, it was postponed until late May but ultimately attempted on 30 May, 2019.

The planned agenda was ultimately unable to be adhered to but the principal focus of the meeting morphed into a discussion of the proposed Submission from the Para Sailing Committee to change our Commission name and rename Regulation 22. Glen Stanaway and the Para Sailing Committee VP from Australia had discussed this concept at length and I ultimately heard from Betsy Alison, Para sailing Committee Chair. Our own consensus was that we have no issue with renaming our Commission and governing Regulation, but did not approve of their proposal to change Classification to Grouping. This was an obvious different conflict with how World Sailing defines continental areas and would only result in further confusion. In the end, our suggestion is to rename Regulation 22 to Sailor Categorization, and Groups 1 and Group 3 to Category 1 and Category 3. This change was recommended to become effective on 1 January 2020 in sync with the new Racing Rules Quadrennial. Ultimately we recognize this is only our input to a Submission that would require support from the Board and approval of the Council.

Classification support and regatta reviews were held for the 2019 ORC Worlds, Melges 24 Worlds and Europeans, ORC Europeans, the New York Yacht Club Invitational Cup, Swan Nations Cup, J 70 Worlds and numerous J Boats classes including a new J70 Corinthian event. Other classes continue to draw on our support including the Farr 40 Worlds, Sydney 38 and and M38 in Australia as well as J 111 and Beneteau 36.7classes.

Our website based registration system and support for the same continued to experience numerous issues which hampered our effort to review applications in a timely manner. We are hopeful that a proposed IT system rewrite project solution begun by management can clear up these and other lingering issues with the online system.

Our membership remains static with 10 Commission members and two liaison appointments, one from the Constitution Committee and one an IT specialist. The following issues remain problematic and our fervent hope is for these postings as well as some lingering broken links can be solved expeditiously.

- Translations from 6 Languages are now up on the Sailor Classification Home Page for the Classification Code(Regulation 22) and Frequently Asked Questions-Russian joins English, French, Spanish, Italian and German
• Japanese Translations are now with the World Sailing IT Administrator to be posted as our Seventh Language- This is in keeping with our goal of diversity and especially in mind of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Rinda
Classification Commission Chairman