

International Formula 18 Catamaran Association.  
Paris Council meeting.  
17, Rue henri Bocquillon, Paris 75015  
Saturday 15th December 2012 at 09h30.  
Final Minutes

➤ **GENERAL**

**1. Welcome by President.**

Presents :

Sandor Roka (Hungary), Frederique Pfeiffer (France), Thomas Pierlet (Belgium), Don Findley (Chair TC), Pablo Soldano (TC), Mischa Heemskerk (Holland), William Sunnucks (Great Britain), Olivier Bovyn (Chair Council), Marco Iazzeta (Italy), Jens Uwe Tonne (Germany), Adrian Allen (Ireland), Pierre Charles Barraud (C; measurer), James Baeckler (Gen Sec).

The President welcomed all members to the meeting and asked that all information was kept within the Council until minutes were agreed and distributed.

**2. Apologies for absence**

From : Australia, USA, Sweden, Finland, Jason Smithwick (ISAF rep), Marteen Duijdam (auditor).

**3. WC Minutes**

Minutes of the meetings of the September 2012 Los Angeles and December 2011 Paris were discussed and approved.

**4. IF18CA Financial reports**

2011 financial report presentation :

The final Accounts for 2011, the comparison figures for 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 has been presented and commented by Treasurer.

Actual financial situation is covering more than one year budget.

2011 financial report by auditors (Ned and Ger rep) :

Final 2011: Taking into consideration our friend Maarten Duijdam took over the position of auditor very recently, and was not able to attend the meeting as previously planned, final 2011 figures will be formally approved in January 2013 by electronic mail after auditors report to be circulated to WC with figures details.

2012 Provisional Figures

The balance sheet for 2012 is presented and commented.

It is pointed that ISAF plaque distributed are for:

Year 2011 : 284 plaques,

Year 2012 : 179 plaques.

All agreed that due to the economic situation worldwide a real marketing and communication plan is necessary. To be discussed with item 15.

Class stickers and F18 emblems : IF18CA is supplying class stickers as service to the national class association. As service this should be done at best effective cost. A proposal is presented to lower sticker cost from 16€ to 9€ per set. The Council agreed to investigate a better supply for class stickers.

The class sticker distribution will be used to build statistic about sail market per year pending to collect all measurement forms in a dedicated data base.

2013 Proposed Budget

Provisional budget is presented and agreed with specific remarks regarding communication and clinic budget which will be increased in line with actions taken in item 15 (marketing plan).

Financial reports approved will be posted on IF18CA website.

**5. Council representation and Worlds slots allocation by countries**

The Council agreed unanimously that Council representation and votes are subject to due payment of fees by the date of winter meeting.

The slot allocation by country for 2013 will be published in early January,

**6. Class activity report**

The Sec. Gen detailed the worldwide developments, asking all countries to develop systems to maintain better records of measurement of NCA basis.

There were 23 NCA's recorded on the website and only 18 on the WC Google group despite request to join the group.

Developments in South America were well received, Chile is growing and measurer has been trained during Worlds in USA.

New NCA are under construction in Denmark and Austria.

Continental championship are also developping in South America and Europe.

After hand over in Holland the Council would like to express all the best to Liesbeth oosterhagen retired from Chair position.

➤ **ADMINISTRATION**

**7. IF18CA Constitution discussion**

Findlay presented this as he had been asked in December 2011 to present options. Todate there had only been one country, Australia, who had responded in detail. Findlay stressed that he thought there was far more discussion needed to seek consensus.

The DRAFT included a much larger role and responsibilities for both the Chief Measurer and the role of the Technical Committee. It was thought by Council that details such as the Webmaster, the Public relations secretary need not be included within the Constitution.

The main problem was the balance of voting authority between the developed and developing F18 nations. The world economic situation meant that the "newer" countries may develop faster than traditional ones, and they must be made to feel involved with world F18 development. Findlay asked that decisions were not taken and that further calm discussions were needed. The voting system of the IF18CA was an important matter but not urgent in weeks or even months until systems could be established that appreciated the balance. The meeting did not vote and further discussions will take place.

The DRAFT can be forwarded again to Council so that the matter can be returned to the agenda in the July meeting. It was agreed that more matters such as the Constitution should go to the IF18CA Official website.

For clarification and help NCA when the new constitution will be presented for vote, all major changes to the constitution will be presented in a submission format which will include actual text, new text proposed and purpose of the change requested before to proceed to final approval article by article.

A template frame will be available on the IF18CA website for upload. All change request will have to be filled in the submission format.

➤ **CLASS RULES**

**8. New Class rules set adoption dates :**

The Class Rules Dated August 2012 were presented to Council. They had been prepared by a rules sub Committee of IF18CA, by the ISAF Technical Dept., by the ISAF Class Rules Sub Committee and in line with Rules A.7.1. were returning to Council for ratification.

The following points were questioned:

- Following discussions at the Worlds in Los Angeles , Rules C.5.1 (a) (2) and (b) (1) was replaced with "One steering compass".

- Rule D.3.1 (c) was changed as Council removed the need for a Paint List as it was going to be impossible to police, consequently the Paint List is also removed as an Appendix.
- The angle of the head to the Aft Head Point Mainsail measurement was discussed. A submission from the chief measurer will be presented in a reasonable period of time to precise the head sail measurement and correct the Jib diagram by adding H7 on the luff.

The Rules were accepted unanimously.

The Council agreed to implement the rules by 01.01.2013.  
The Technical Committee to notify ISAF immediately.

## **9. Paint and Cloth list adoption :**

Paint list :

It was agreed that there is little chance of policing the Paint List and so no point in it being in the Class Rules. The meeting agreed to the removal of the Paint List from the August 2012 DRAFT Rules.

Cloth list :

The Cloth List was subject to considerable debate.

The Technical Committee Chair pointed out that many of these cloths were no longer made or used and that was one reason for shortening the list, the others being the desire of Council over the years to have heavy long lasting cloths and that 3.0mil cloth would have the same sailing characteristics and so adhere better to the Guiding Principles of the Class.

The meeting decided to keep the March 2010 List in force, but asked Findlay to write to the main cloth makers within seven days and ask them which of their cloths they thought would be available worldwide for the next two years, which would give long lasting life, and at a competitive price and keep to the Class Guiding principles. When this information was to hand, then a new list could be presented to Council.

The Technical Committee were asked to establish a clear protocol for changing of rules or even cloths.

The Technical committee will work to define a set of mechanical characteristics for the cloth makers to produce fit for purpose sailcloth.

The characteristics to define for main and Jib are:

- minimum of DPI,
- minimum film thicknes,
- minimum weight,
- fabric from rolls with constant construction.

The characteristic to define for Spinnaker (nylon or polyester) is :

- minimum weight.

The characteristics selected will ensure optimum performance for :

- at least 2 years for main sail,
- at least 1 year for Jib and spinnaker.

For developments purpose, it is critical that in one country, a new cloth material that may fit with class requirement will be examined by the Technical Committee which will reply within 30 days.

The Council agreed that long term stability is requested with class rules while keeping the possibility to review the fabrics from the cloth list ensuring value for money to the sailors.

## **➤ CLASS EVENTS**

### **10. 2013 Worlds**

The Italian rep. made an accurate presentation of spot arrangement, registration and entry fees. Registration up to 200 boats will start in January on the event website :

<http://2013.f18worlds.com>

All teams will be allowed to register according to national quotas until end of April.

The fees will be 240€ per team and 150€ for youth teams.

The organization will looks to organize boat parking such as each trailer will be parked beside to each boat. A fresh water circuit will be available on the parking.

A dedicated area will be reserved for containers and oversized trailers.

#### **11. 2014 Worlds**

Adrian Allen detailed all the current propositions including provisional budget. A major financial contributor will be the local Council and remembering past regattas, Ireland were warned of the dangers when dealing with political appointees and wished to have the commitments confirmed very strongly.

The Council unanimously voted that Ireland would hold the 2014 World Championships.

#### **12. 2012 Worlds debrief**

Council had not received any report from the USA but all who had attended spoke very highly of the regatta and the reception received by all sailors.

##### **Future :**

Oman Sails has addressed to the IF18CA an official interest in hosting the F18 Worlds in Oman. Argentina, although asking for bid documents, did not submit any proposal.

The Bid requirement to host Worlds or Continental championships can be upload on the iF18CA website.

#### **13. Continentals F18 Championship.**

Continental championship or Continentals events are developing such as the South American Championship organized in Buenos Aires by the class in Argentina or the European F18 Tour organized under the umbrella of the European Vice president.

The continental events should be encouraged, they provide a development for the class in addition to the Worlds event.

### ➤ **VARIOUS**

#### **14. F18 trademark registration and F18 logo**

The meeting thanked the President and the Chief Measurer for their continued generosity in providing the use of F18 logo and design for another year free of any fees.

#### **15. F18 Marketing**

Findlay worked through the notes that he had sent earlier for the September meeting.

The US F18 Association had given a good lead to all NCA's with a very detailed written response, which was supportive of marketing actions.

There was some concern about the workload, stock levels and margins, these could be answered by passing to a company prepared to accept on the basis that they made margins as well. There was also concern voiced that NCA's would lose individuality if they were asked to respond to international marketing.

Mischa Heemskerk and Don Findlay were asked to present marketing plans and budgets with urgency.

Although many felt that there was need to improve marketing activity, as boat sale numbers had declined, some members felt that it was the role of the local manufacturer and dealer.

The Council agreed unanimously that monies from reserves could be used when needed for Clinics and Communication.

Press officer : The Council agreed that the class communication has to be improved on true the website and social networks, new direction will be given to the press officer.

#### **16. GPS :**

At the moment the Council rejected the proposal to allow GPS device during onshore events.

The main concern are dealing with possible racing team sharing non open data and cost of some product on the market.

The proposal will be reexamined next year.

**17. Class sponsor to lower entry fee and promote the class (Dutch class request):**

Linked with item 15

Global Tech, the Sponsor of the 2012 Worlds might be a potential class sponsor, according to Dutch representative. Class has to make an offer in exchange as It is now possible to have a class sponsor according to ISAF regulation (Dutch rep. and Chair to coordinate).

**18. To discuss Formula 18 handicap regarding curved Dagger board:**

2 subjects were developed :

- Dutch rep. spoke of the problems occurring with the high performance of craft with curved dagger boards and hence the lowering of handicap results of the F18's competing against them. He thought that this was a serious problem and would get worse when the Olympic N17 joined in racing as well.
- SCHRS : The Minutes of SCHRS meeting available on the SCHRS website shows that the F18 rating is not a calculated handicap using measured data but based on statistic with penalty what penalize the class due to high level of racing.

The doc is available at :

[http://www.schrs.com/img/pdf/SCHRS\\_Improvements\\_2012\\_updated\\_29\\_4\\_2012.pdf](http://www.schrs.com/img/pdf/SCHRS_Improvements_2012_updated_29_4_2012.pdf)

The Council agreed :

- To strongly request to reinstall a handicap based on valid measurement for F18, with rating calculation available to any sailor,
- To strongly request to calculate a true rating for curved board boats to preserve fair racing events based on handicap.

**19. ISAF IHC process (Jason Smith)**

It was regretted that Dr. Smithwich could not attend due to being away with other National Authorities. The IHC documentation would be circulate as provided to the ISAF Council in the recent annual meeting in Ireland and the matter will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

**20. Any other business**

No other item were discussed the meeting closed at 18H00

James Baeckler  
Gen Sec IF18CA.