



Minutes as of 26 November

Annual General Meeting

BMW Brand Window" Lenbachplatz 7a, 80333 Munich
Saturday 27th October 2012 at 10.30 am

Name	Position	Country	Representing
Richard Blickman	Vice Chairman IDA	Netherlands	New Zealand
Andrew Craig	Treasurer IDA	Ireland	
Phyllis Chang	Vice Chairman IDA	Hong Kong	
Reemt Reemtsma	Vice Chairman IDA	Germany	
Vasily Senatorov	Vice Chairman IDA	Russia	
Philip Dohse	Techl Com Chairman IDA	Germany	
David Dale	Secretary IDA	UK	
Christoph Schindler	President	Austria	Austria
Markus Oppitz	Vice President	Austria	
Lars Broen	Commodore NDA	Denmark	Denmark
Philipp Skaft-Holm	Officer NDA	Denmark	
Eric Le Bon	Chairman NDA	France	France
Stephane Baseden.	Officer NDA	France	
Rupert Fischer	Commodore NDA	Germany	Germany
Alexandros Kedros	Officer NDA	Greece	Greece
Tam Nguyen	President NDA	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Marc Castagnet	Observer	Hong Kong	Japan
Vilmos Naray	Chairman NDA	Hungary	Hungary
Tim Pearson	Secretary NDA	Ireland	Ireland
Tonino Virett	President NDA	Italy	Italy
Paolo Giorgetti	Observer	Italy	
Huib Bannier	President NDA	Netherlands	Netherlands/Belgium
Jaap Bakker	Race Secretary NDA	Netherlands	
Odd-Erik Aks	Officer NDA	Norway	Norway
Miguel Magalhães	President NDA	Portugal	Portugal
Dmitry Samokhin	President NDA	Russia	Russia
Ulf Bjurman	Secretary NDA	Sweden	Sweden
Dieter Schmid	President NDA	Switzerland	Switzerland
Martin Makey	Vice Chairman NDA	UK	UK/Antigua/Canada/USA
Jill Hayward	Assistant Secretary IDA	UK	

1. Apologies s for Absence

Poul Hoj Jensen (Antigua) , Benoit Quatannens (Belgium) David Dale Johnson (Canada) Jude Hoosan

(New Zealand) Joso Matoso (POR) Anne Garrett (USA) Christopher Dicker (UK) Ruhunu Dragon Association (Sri Lanka)

2. Declaration of Proxies

Richard Blickman (NED) for New Zealand, Martin Makey (UK) for Antigua/USA/Canada, Marc Castagnet (HKG) for Japan

3. Confirmation of previous Minutes

The Minutes of the AGM 2011 were approved

4. Chairman's Report

Welcome to the 2012 AGM in Munich. On behalf of everyone a special thanks to the German Dragon Association and in particular Rupert Fischer for organizing everything.

This is my first report as your chairman and so far we have had no major issues. Overall a continued positive development of our Dragon Class. Many great events, both National and International, with good to above average attendance and new and younger sailors joining.

However, the worsening global economic situation is having a negative effect on the number of new Dragons built and sponsoring major events is becoming increasingly difficult.

Keeping entry fees at current levels may become an issue if we do not succeed to tighten the event budgets. We are closely monitoring the preparation of the major events and advising where needed in first instance on top quality race management. Also we encourage keeping the on shore entertainment at reasonable levels. ISAF ranked IROs for race management and also ISAF ranked juries set the standard for our major events.

Corinthian Trophies have been awarded at all major events and our top Corinthian sailors rank with the professional part of the fleet.

The class promotion efforts are growing and I would like to thank in particular Fiona Brown and Martin Payne for their continued contribution at all major events.

We are very pleased that Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark has recently accepted the position of Vice-President of the IDA.

Some 2012 activities

There were two international highlights. First the European Championship on Lake Attersee in Austria with 70 boats and this year's Gold Cup in Kinsale Ireland with also close to 70 boats from 15 nations. Both organizations were excellent in race management and shore facilities and hospitality.

Technical

Under the leadership of Philip Dohse and Chief Measurer Marcel Wagenaar, we can be assured of sound continuity and observation of the class rules and careful investigation of proposed changes.

Late August we were by a group of Danish Dragon sailors who have expressed measurement concerns about 2012 built Petticrow Dragons. Dr. Philip Dohse has taken immediate action to investigate these concerns. Philip will report later on in the meeting on next steps.

IDA Championships and Grade 1 events

Our grade 1 events have been held with good entries in Cascais, Cannes and Douarnenez. Also the Prince Philip Cup in Australia was held as a grade 1 event for the first time.

Markus Wieser won this year's European Championship on Lake Attersee and Ulli Libor won the Corinthian Trophy. The Gold Cup in Kinsale was won by Tommy Mueller in very close competition with Lawrie Smith. The Corinthian Trophy was won by Cameron Good. The Borge Borressen Trophy was won by Lawrie Smith.

Eligibility

In the past years we have discussed about changing the rules for eligibility for World and European Championships. A proposal by the officer is distributed and recommended to be adopted at this meeting.

International Ranking List

The IRL is fulfilling its intended role; however, the discipline of the event organizers in supplying results in a timely manner can be improved.

We have retained the services of Mini and Daniel Genevet to maintain accuracy of the IRL and provide regular updates in a timely manner.

This year's winner of the IRL is Jose Matoso.

The Gold Cup Owners meeting

The Owners Meeting held at the Kinsale Gold Cup was focused on eligibility, probably because of the upcoming Worlds in Weymouth next year. The conclusion has been prepared in our proposal for rule changes at today's AGM.

Also the meeting encouraged the IDA to continue increased marketing efforts to further promote the class.

Last year's concerns about 'below standard' race management at major events was discussed. The IDA officers have participated in an ISAF IRO seminar to learn and meet potential IROs for our major events. This has resulted in closer involvement of IDA officers in preparation of our major International events.

Personal

We are thanking Phyllis Chang for her contribution as vice chairman to the IDA for four years. Not only has Phyllis contributed to the decisions on all issues, but also maintained a close relationship with the Hong Kong Dragon fleet and other fleets in Australia and Canada.

Reemt Reemtsma has offered to be nominated for a second term of two years as Vice Chairman and the officers recommend Reemt's election.

Jose Matoso has been welcomed by the Officers as Vice Chairman and we propose his election to the meeting for a two years term. Jose has been a keen Dragon sailor for many years and President of the Cascais Yacht Club; important to us since Cascais is of increasing importance in our circuit.

Andrew Craig continues as Treasurer and we are grateful to Andrew's continued support.

Also we would like to thank David Dale, our Secretary. It has been a great pleasure for me to work closely with David this year and his commitment and knowledge is outstanding. David and the Officers are very well supported by Jill Hayward and we thank Jill for this.

2013

Next year will be again a great year for the Class with the three major events. The Europeans in Cascais in April, the Gold Cup in Douarnenez in August followed by the World Championship in Weymouth. All events are well advanced in preparation.

Although now in a challenging economic environment, we are certain that the Dragon class will continue to prosper.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurers Report with the Budget for 2013 was presented by Andrew Craig, Treasurer.

The difficult economic conditions continued throughout 2012 and the class is not immune to the economic cold winds and this was most evident in the fall in new boats built (and the IDA building fees) and the fall in the number of sail labels sold. The turnout at regattas around the globe is very strong and individual National Associations continue to bid to hold our major events and the outlook for the class remains positive.

The 2011 receipts and payments account shows a decrease in our reserves of £ 5,518 which is greater than the budgeted decrease of £2,900. As a result our closing cash balance amounts to £46,392 which continues to be a strong financial position.

The Association continues to benefit from subsidies from the officers in terms of travel costs and administrative support.

The strength of the class and good turnout at major regattas continues.

Receipts

Income was almost £ 9,000 lower than budget and £ 8,000 lower than last year. This is partially timing due to destocking by lofts and sales of labels have been very strong in September and October – normally a period of very low sales. As a result next year's income is likely to benefit and this has been built into the 2013 budget.

Subscription income was in line with budget and last year. Subscriptions levels have not been increased for many years and it is timely to consider whether we should raise subscriptions to reflect the service provided to members,

Building fees were £ 2,500 below budget and last year reflecting the lower number of new builds during the year.

Mast label income is in line with budget and last year.

Yearbook and website advertising was some £ 5,500 better than budget and last year which went a long way to cover off the fall in sail label income. Our efforts to make advertising sales in 2012/13 are meeting with reduced success – particularly the Yearbook advertising where the commercial advertisers are not expressing interest.

Other income includes income from the sale of plans, rules and templates.

Overall our income was very weak in 2012 being the second lowest year of the last 5 years. It is hoped that the very attractive 2013 season with the Europeans in Cascais, Gold Cup in Douarnenez and Worlds in Weymouth be good for our income.

Payments

Expenditure was approximately £ £3,000 lower than budget and £ 4,000 lower the previous year.

Last year's investment in the website continued and the quality of the content was significantly improved with the new branding, blogs (particularly Stavros), Facebook, videos from major events and the Dragon Website is one of the best around. The professional webmaster develops and runs the site and ensures the quality is maintained. The hit rate continues to be very high and the web has become our main source of communication and the reach is enormous. The Officers will need to consider whether the relatively high expenditure on the Yearbook is warranted and consideration should be given to moving all our communication to the web and cease production of the Yearbook.

Another area of investment was the continued development of the IRL and the Officers thank and acknowledge the huge input from Robert Alpe who generously gave his time free to the IDA to progress the IRL project.

Other areas of expenditure were broadly in line with budget and prior year and tight control was maintained throughout the year by the Secretary / Manager and Jill Hayward who also worked hard chasing for advertising in the Yearbook and on the web.

Conclusion

We continue to maintain a reserve of approximately £50,000. It is vital that we preserve a balance of this order to deal with temporary fluctuations in income and to cover any unexpected issues which might threaten the strength of the class.

Discussion arising from the Treasurer's Report

Revenue increases The Officers had considered a number of different ways to increase revenue, but had finally recommended an increase in the cost of sail labels by 25 % to £27.50 this was supported by Rupert Fisher and approved unanimously by the delegates.

Advertising In discussion it was agreed that advertisers preferred using the Website rather than the Yearbook and this should be taken into consideration if the Yearbook is replaced. Whilst talking about the website Philip Skafte –Holm commented that it was not compatible with Tablets and Smartphones and asked that this should be addressed

The BDA questioned why National Associations As should have to pay the IDA to promote their websites and also asked how much would be saved if the Yearbook was replaced, - the Treasurer stated approximately £4000. Dimitry Samokhin commented that demand for web publishing was being led by the National Associations.

Finally the French Dragon Association commented that Building Fees had remained flat over 5 years and asked if this was likely to remain the long term trend, - it was generally felt to be unlikely!

Acceptance of the Report was Proposed, Seconded and unanimously accepted by delegates. After approval by the meeting a small amendment to the Budget was made to reflect the immediate effect of the increase in charges for the remainder of the year.

6. Technical Report and Class Rule Changes

Dr Philip Dohse reported that the year had been relatively quiet on the technical side and there were no issues outstanding regarding the development of boats, spars or rigs. As a result of this there were no Rule Changes proposed by the Technical Committee for approval by the Annual General Meeting.

The Dutch Dragon Association had earlier, (October 2011), proposed an extended top batten for the mainsail of the Dragon. This proposal was discussed within the Technical Committee but not found necessary and helpful and the AGM 2012 confirmed an earlier decision not to recommend the change.

Recently a National Association had raised issues regarding detailed measurement of an individual boat. This issue is under discussion between the Association the IDA and the builder concerned, and further communication will be made when the investigations have been completed.

During 2012 Lars Hendriksen and Burkard Kesse resigned from the Technical Committee. They were thanked for their work in the past years. The Technical Committee now consists of Dr Philip Dohse, Chairman (Germany), [Marcel Wagenaar](#), Chief Measurer (Netherlands), [Andrew Johnson](#) (Australia), [Yves Leglise](#) (France) and [Gunter Ahlers](#) (Germany). It is intended to appoint an additional 2 Dragon sailors as members of the Technical Committee in near future in order to maintain the recent number of members.

7. Class Rule Changes for 2013

There were no Rule Changes proposed for the next year

8. New Rules for the World and European Championships

Following work during the year on this subject, a further clarification on Eligibility was proposed by the Officers, and after lengthy discussion was accepted by a majority of delegates. It is attached and will be incorporated in the Rules of the World and European Championships with immediate effect.

9. IDA Championships and Corinthians

A short reminder to Organising Authorities will be added to the Class Regulations to remind Organisers of their requirement to include a paragraph in the NOR if it is intended to hold a Corinthian event within an IDA Championship. The IDA Secretary will provide wording to Organising Authorities.

10. Events Rota

Year	World Championship	European Championship	Gold Cup
2013	UK (Weymouth) 08-13/09	Portugal (Cascais) 06-12/04	France (DNZ) 16-24/08
2014		Italy (San Remo) 21-28/03	Holland (Medemblik) 05-12/09
2015	France (La Rochelle)	Sweden (Båstad) August	Germany Kiel/Warnemund 29/08- 05/09
2016		Russia (St Petersburg) July	Denmark (Hornbaek) (27/8-01/09)
2017	Portugal (Cascais) / Hungary	France (DNZ)/Switzerland (Geneva)	Italy (Lake Garda/Naples)
2018			Portugal (Cascais)
2019	Australia		
	Fixtures confirmed	Fixtures to be confirmed at 2014 AGM	Future applications.

The Rota of forthcoming events was agreed and updating reports, were given by the Portuguese, French, British, Italian, Dutch, Swedish, German, Russian, and Danish delegates

Existing IDA Grades were confirmed for the 2013 Season

11. International Ranking List

Jose Matoso was announced as the winner of the Mueller Trophy in 2012.

The Management of the IRL has now been taken on by Daniel and Mini Genevet our webmasters who will keep the same basic formula for the IRL, but will no longer run National Ranking lists which will be the responsibility of individual National Associations.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Saturday 26th October 2013 in Amsterdam, Holland.

David Dale
IDA Secretary