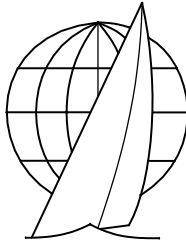


OFFSHORE RACING CONGRESS

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MINUTES of the meeting of the **ORC Offshore Classes & Events Committee** meeting held on November 3rd, 2006 in Helsinki

Present:	Don Genitempo	Chairman
	Emilio Feliu	Spain
	Bruno Finzi	Italy
	Josè Frers	Argentina
	Zoran Grubisa	Croatia
	Bengt-Olof Holmberg	Sweden
	Paolo Massarini	Italy
	Thomas Nilsson	Norway
	Edoardo Recchi	Italy
	Wolfgang Schaefer	Germany

Observers:	Gustavo Benavent	Spain
	Hans Bruman	Sweden
	Roula Galani	Greece
	Eva Holmsten	Sweden
	Enrique Molinelli	Spain

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10.00 am. The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for being there.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of November 2005 were approved as presented.

3. Report of Championships

- (i) Don Genitempo reported on the Sardinia Rolex Cup ISAF Offshore Team Worlds Championship which was organised and hosted by Yacht Club Costa Smeralda. 7 teams representing 5 nations and two geographical areas competed. Each team was composed of: a TP 52, a Swan 45 and a Farr40. 7 windward –leeward races and a medium distance race were completed mostly in light to medium air. The selection of yachts for the teams was excellent giving good competition in each of the three fleets with no real interference between them. It was a good format smoothly executed by a veteran organiser.
- (ii) The IMS Offshore World Championship was reported by Wolfgang Schaefer. The event was held for the first time in Northern Europe, hosted by Northern Regatta Verein near Neustadt, Germany. It was a highly successful event, attracting 50 yachts from ten countries. 7 races were completed including the long distance race. The fleet was divided into two classes with the smaller yachts sailing as slightly shortened course. Besides prizes in each of the two classes, a prize for the best Corinthian crew was also awarded. Rolex Germany and NRV were the sponsor of this well run event.

- (iii) Bengt-Olof Holmberg reported on the fourth world championship for the IMS 600 Class. Held in Aghios Nikolaos, Crete. 14 yachts from 6 countries entered the event, with 12 competing. 10 different designers were represented. 8 races were scored under conditions from drifting to 30 knots. The venue, hospitality and conduct of the event was excellent under sometimes trying conditions. Thanks to the sailing club of Aghios Nikolaos and to the community of sponsors.
- (iv) Miguel Rosa submitted the report of the second World Championship for the IMS 670 Class; hosted by Real Club Nautico de Santa Maria and sailed on the bay of Cadiz in Spain. 32 yachts from 4 countries competed, with 8 separate designs being represented. 8 races were scored in predominately light conditions. Three different designs finished within the top five finishes.
- (v) The European Championship of the IMS 600 Class was organised and conducted by the Yacht Club Scheveningen during the ABN AMRO North Sea Regatta. 12 yachts from 4 countries and six designs made up the fleet. The early part of the event was in heavy winds and large seas, with latter races sailed in light to moderate breezes. It was a competitive event with the lead changing hands several time.
- (vi) Yacht Club Punta Ala hosted the IMS European Championship in perfect sailing condition as reported by ORC representative Zoran Grubisa. 20 yachts participated, some what less than in previous years, do to weather conditions prior to the event that prevented several yachts from arriving in time. The close scheduling of other events adversely affected the entries also. 8 races were scored which allowed a discard.
- (vii) There was no report from the Sport Boat Championship that was held in Warnemunde, Germany.

This season's requirement that ORC events use the Green Book standard tools, notice of race and sailing instructions established a good level of uniformity. The organisers were happy to comply and there were no negative issues. In discussions, the Committee expressed its support for the selections of the GP 42 for the 2008 Sardinia Rolex Cup. There also followed a discussion of site selections for events in respect of local fleet numbers and the inclusion of the event that is another event.

4. Report of Classes

Paolo Massarini reported on the continuing success of the GP 42 development. The owners association is fully formed, the calendar of events for 2007 has been confirmed and 12 boats from 4 countries are expected to be participating by mid season. Additional boats are in development stage and the list of prospective owners grows. Even though the GP 33 has not yet had the planned promotional effort, there are several boats under constructions. The GP 26 is on the water racing very successfully in handicap classes. Several boats are in the planning stage and should be seen by late season.

Bruno Finzi reported on the affiliated Mini Maxi Class (new Division of IMA) whose 18 yachts raced under the ORC Club rule. The Class is very happy with the system, continuing on in 2007. 10 new yachts will join the class for next season. They range from 60 to 80 feet in length.

The Wally Division raced under the IMAX advanced package of IMS, with excellent results. Alessandro Nazareth is the ORC technical consultant for the Classes.

The 600 Class was noted to be growing in Scandinavia. ORC events for this Class in the region will strengthen its development. Gustavo Benavent explained the expansion of the Class rating bands in Spain that now refers to the group as the 570 Class.

For 2007 they will return to handicapping within the band rather than level racing.

The 670 Class continued to grow in Spain and now in Scandinavia also. The need to keep the boats as affordable productions yachts was stressed.

5. Submissions

DSV 1 - Rotation of IMS European Championship

The Committee supports the submission and already has corresponded with Yacht Club Punta Ala.

DSV 3 - ORC Championship Rules/Spare Mainsail

The Committee agrees with the principle and supports the submission with the amendment “second mainsail must have a minimum of one set of reef points. The Mainsails may be interchangeable”. Added to 7.1 of Green Book.

FIV 9 – IMS 670 Class

The Committee does not support this submission. It was agreed by congress in 2005 the number of boats to be 15 beginning in 2007.

KNWV 1 - Carbon mast in IMS 670 Class

The Committee does not support this submission. At this time the committee is unaware of production boats of this class having carbon masts, and desires to keep the class as economical as possible. But will monitor developments.

KNW 3 - Offshore Race in ORC Championship

The Committee does not support this submission. See SWE 3

RFEV 2 - Number of days in a World Championship

The Committee does not support this submission. However after debate, it was agreed to modify the schedule of races in standard NoR to allow flexibility.

RFEV 3 - Diminish the minimum number of races.

Although the Committee does not support this submission, it understands the problem and will study a way to modify 8.3 in the Green Book and to include that a reduction will be subject to completion of both Offshore Races.

RFEV 4 - IMS 670 Worlds to Spain

The Committee supports this submission subject to approval of dates and location to be submitted by Dec. 31st

RFEV 5 - Number of units for IMS 670 Class

The Committee does not support this submission. The Congress approved in 2005 to raise the number of units to 15 effective in 2007. The Committee supports the intent of the submission by clarifying and strengthen the wording in Class Rule 3.4 c.

RFEV 6 - Clear definition of boats constructed

The Committee does not support this submission but support the intent and the rationale. It will consult with chief measurer and Class representative to clarify and strengthen IMS Rule 108 and Class rule 3.4, and investigate further limits for the Class.

RFEV 7 - LOA for IMS 670 Class

The Committee supports the submission.

RFEV 8 - Reduce band of IMS 670 Class

The Committee supports the submission and recommends the band to be reduced to a 30 sec/mi spread subject to fleet analysis .

RFEV 10 - Green book 6.6

The Committee supports the submission

RFEV 11 - ORC level Class Rule 206

The Committee supports the submission

SWE 3 - Schedule of Races

The Committee supports the submission with a modification that the combined coefficient equal 3 allocated 1.25 and 1.75 with neither race to be discarded.

SWE 4 - Class limit IMS 600

The Committee does not support part 1 of the submission ie expansion of limits. But does support extending the maximum length to 12.91 metres and eliminating any minimum length requirements.

SWE 5 - Two length zone

The Committee supports the clarification of the one turn penalty, but does not support insertion of RRS 44.1 and 44.2

SWE 6 - Time limit

The Committee does not support this submission. One part of the offshore race is mandatory to qualify the series. A time limit on the first part could jeopardize this.

SWE 7 - Corinthian Trophy

The Committee does not support this submission. The Green Book covers these situations presently.

6. Calendar of Events

A number of requests were received for hosting the ORC events. After extended discussions the request were confirmed resulting in the attached Events Calendar.

7. Organization of Committee

Mr. Jesus Pinto of Spain will replace Mr. Juan Ameneiro

8. Other Business

A motion was made and passed to include the Mini Maxi Class in Para 3.3 of Green Book

The meeting was adjourned at 5.45 pm