

OFFSHORE RACING CONGRESS

World Leader in Rating Technology

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Minutes of a meeting of the **Offshore Classes & Events Committee** of the Offshore Racing Congress held on 6th November 2010 in Hotel Grande Bretagne, Athens, Greece.

Present:

Don Genitempo (Chairman)
Bruno Finzi
Jose Frers
Zoran Grubisa
Wolfgang Schaefer
Emilio Feliu Serra
Paolo Massarini
Eduardo Recchi
Ecky Von der Mosel
Eva Holmsten substituting for Hans Broman

Apologies for absence:

Thomas Nilsson

Observers:

Fabrizio Pirina
Christos Theodosis
Vadim Mekhanikov
Patrick Lindqvist
P. Lopmeri
H. Andersson
Joachim Magander
Giovanni Iannucci
Panagiotis Papapostolou

Akis Tsalikis
Dina Sfakianaki
Hans Zuiderbaan
Boris Hepp
Ab Pasman
Per Boymo
Sten Edholm
Dobbs Davis

1 Call to order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:30. He welcomed the committee and observers and thanked them for coming

2 Approval of Previous Minutes

After a few moments for each committee member to review, Mr. Schaefer moved the minutes of 2009 be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

3 Report of Championships

- 3.1** Mr. Genitempo, the ORC representative at the ORCi World Championship reported that the 2010 event in Flensburg, Germany was a huge success. The championship was organised by the Flensburg/Segel Club and held at their facilities in Gluecksburg September 5 through September 11. 55 entries from 8 nations participated in 2 divisions. 7 inshore races and 2 offshore races were completed – winds were consistently above 16 knots, and even topped 35 knots at times on the long Offshore race.

Alpha Division was won by Christian Plump's modified Rodman 42 "Beluga sailing team" while Jurgen Klinghardt won Beta Division in his X332 "Patent 3," which was also the Corinthian Champion.

- 3.2** The 2010 European Championship was reported by ORC representative Dobbs Davis. The event was held in Cagliari, Sardinia over July 5 – 11 and organized by LNI Cagliari. 34 entries from 4 countries sailed in two divisions. Seven Inshore and two offshore races were completed in predominately light conditions and flat water. Division A was won by "Man," a GS 42, while Division B was won by "Alvarosky," a GS 40 RC. There was no Corinthian division, but Alvarosky did win the Owner-Driver Award.
- 3.3** The ISAF/ORC team world championship for the Sardinia Cup was reported by ORC representative Bruno Finzi. The event was organised by Yacht Club Costa Smeralda from 28 June through July 3. 8 teams of 2 boats each (a Farr 40 and a Melges 32) competed, and 6 of the 9 scheduled races were completed in light to medium winds with no discards. Team Germany won the event, followed by Italy and the US.
- 3.4** The ORC European Sportboat Championship was reported by Don Genitempo substituting for ORC representative Nicola Sironi. This event is especially notable in that it is the first ORC championship organised and hosted by the Russian Federation. The event was held in St Petersburg July 3 through July 10. This first Championship attracted 25 yachts from 6 countries, where 9 races were completed. Vlas Kadetov, former Federation Vice chairman, won the event in a Ceccarelli GP26 design built in his own boat yard. The Lithuanian yacht "Levante" was second. The success and enthusiasm surrounding the event ensures further events for the area.

4 Report from ORC Classes

4.1 GP42 Class report

Paolo Massarini, Manager of the GP42 Class, gave a report of the class's activities during the 2010 season. The class continued to participate in the Med Cup Circuit along with the TP 52, although with a reduce number of Yachts competing. An average of 5 GP42's and 10 TP52's were present at the 5 scheduled events. Massarini cited a weak economy and the cost of participation as causes for the reduced numbers especially among non-sponsored entries.

A number of the non-MedCup yachts were enjoying success in handicap events, so the class has elected to form their own circuit for 2011, foregoing the MedCup format.

Massarini also reported the class association with ORC input will be making modifications to Class rules effective January 1st 2011. A discussion as to how ORC should assist the class to grow resulted in a working party being formed by chairman Finzi. It was also decided to form a second working party to explore creation of additional ORC classes as was done in the past with the IMS 600, 670 etc.

4.2 GP33 Class report

There was no new and noticeable GP33 Class activity in 2010, other than continued racing among the three designs in Japan and the one design from Poland in Baltic-based events.

4.3 GP26 Class report

Vadim Mekhanikov reported that interest in the GP26 was gaining momentum in Russia. Three boatyards have announced new plans to begin production on Russian designs of the class. Dobbs Davis reported he has been contacted to do a design review of a second generation GP 26 in Sydney, Australia.

There is also a new Jim Donovan design in Connecticut USA coming to market, along with GP26's migrating north from Argentina and a Brooks Dees design on the US West Coast. This nascent US fleet has a US GP26 association website is up and running. It was agreed that ORC needs to find a proper approach to coordinate and assist the grass roots momentum in the class.

5 Submissions

5.1 CRO 1 – GREEN BOOK SCORING COEFFICIENT

Scoring coefficient for all races to be 1 with no discards.

5.2 SLO 1 – OFFSHORE RACE COEFFICIENT AND DISCARD

Offshore race should be discardable. Discard after 6 races

5.3 ITA 1 – GREEN BOOK PROGRAMME FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Revision (lengthening) of schedule and modification of coefficient in distance races.

Each of these three submissions concern modifications of the scoring coefficient of races and discards in some part, so they were therefore discussed as a group. Many options were suggested by various committee members and observers, resulting in a long and thorough analysis of the system. In the end, it was decided to withhold support of the submissions and maintain the system as currently stated in the Green Book, with the exception of the ITA 1 proposal of extending the schedule. The committee agreed to extend the schedule to 8 days rather than to the 9 days proposed in ITA 1.

5.4 ITA 2 - NUMBER OF SAILS USED DURING THE CHAMPIONSHIP

The committee does not support the submission. It feels the current paragraph 7.1 of the Green Book is appropriate and expresses its intentions.

6 2010 Calendar of 2011 events

A discussion of upcoming events centered around the announcement of the RORC and ORC joint venture and how it will impact future events, most specifically the World Championship for 2011 and 2012. Continental and regional events should not be affected at this time. A decision on the continuance of the 2011 Cres Word Championship will be taken by the end of ISAF meetings. The request for the 2012 event in Finland will be tabled for an indefinite period.

The 2011 European Championship is scheduled for Hanko, Norway in August, and a Mediterranean Championship is scheduled for Punta Ala in June 2011. A tentative request for the Sportsboat 2011 Championship is expected from Russia.

7 Organization of the Committee

The Chairman announced the retirement of Mr Martin Billoch and requests Congress's approval of the appointment of Mr Vadim Mekhanikov to fill his seat. He also request approval of the substitution of Mrs. Eva Holmsten for Mr. Hans Broman .

8 Other business

Mr. Lindqvist, Mr. Lopmeri and Mr. Andersson from Finland gave a detailed and informative presentation, with brochure, of Helsinki as the proposed site of the 2012 World Championship, which was much appreciated by the committee.

9 Result of GP42 WP and recommendations to Congress

The GP 42 ORC WP completed its work and recommends the Congress to approve the following rule changes:

- 1) Bowsprit instead of Spin pole
- 2) Reduce crew weight
- 3) Increase righting moment
- 4) Allow square mainsail and double backstays
- 5) Tighter sail limitation

Items 2 and 3 will be finalised after consultation with the ORC Technical Staff and Design offices.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.30 PM