

2018 IOMICA AGM Notes for Discussion

Appendix A proposal from GBR

Graham Bantock: The proposal to amend App A, to reduce the number of places permitted to non-continental sailors for a continental championship, addresses the current disproportionate allocation to sailors outside a continent. If passed, in future, a maximum of 8 places would be allocated to sailors from outside a continent. Helpfully a method of determining the order of precedence in the case of over application is proposed.

Gavin Watson: The Proposal was submitted by GBR to counteract the disproportionate allocation of places to NCA's outside of the continent, IOMICA has had success in recent years with NCA's being formed in Japan, Thailand, Austria & an application from Malaysia. With more NCA's being formed both in and outside of Europe it was felt that further disproportionate allocation of places would occur. It was also felt with a strong following for the IOM class now on other continents the proposal would encourage these continents to run further continental championships.

Appendix B proposal from GBR

Graham Bantock: The proposal changes the content of the report from an Organising Authority to the Event Sub Committee from 'at the least a statement of income and expenditure' to 'detailed accounts'. This seeks to make the financial side of such an event more transparent and, helpfully, to make it clear to other potential OAs what is involved financially.

Gavin Watson: The proposal from GBR was in an effort to make income and expenditure transparent, this in turn can be used to give OA's info prior to making bids on World and Continental Championships, with this info to hand making informed decisions to the validity of certain questions i.e. Appendix D. With all income and expenditure info to hand further alterations to the Championship Class Rules can be made on an informed basis.

Appendix C proposal from ESP

Graham Bantock: This is essentially an alternative to proposal A. The difference is that a maximum of 12 places would be allocated to sailors from outside the continent. There is no point voting for Appendix A and for Appendix C. Choose which you prefer, 8 or 12 places, and vote for A or C accordingly. If you prefer the current arrangement, where many more places may be allocated to sailors from outside the continent, vote against both.

Gavin Watson: Nothing further to add to Graham's comments

Appendix D proposal from ESP

Graham Bantock: The proposal is that European Championship events (but not other continental events) shall comprise 4 days racing (no less, no more), 1 day of registration/measurement, and no more than 3 fleets (heats).

The arguments made for this proposal are:

- Current events have 1/3 of the total fleet who are learners/improvers and such events are not for such sailors.
- The reduction in both the number of entrants (it does not state this but this is a logical outcome of 3 heats if the racing system does not permit any bigger heats) and the time taken for a given number of races.
- There would be easier management by the Organising Authority, more OAs willing to bid for such events, and lower costs.
- Other events, that is non-European Championship open events (e.g. Pierrelatte, Malta, Torrevieja) would be able to take up the slack.

Obviously a change to the heat system permitting, say, 30 boats per heat would negate the effect of this proposal but this is not considered. Likewise the choice of 3 heats of whatever the smallest heat size is would reduce the number of boats considerably below the 64 imagined by the proposers.

If it is not too late, in order to make more sense of this proposal, the limitation of 3 heats should be changed to a limitation of 64 boats (24 boats maximum per heat being 24/20/20).

From the point of view of the highest performing sailors this is probably something worth voting for. However, it is not obvious how much the cost of an event would be reduced by. Travel, opening/closing dinners and visa costs, for the OA and sailors, will remain fixed. What would be lost is the opportunity for less experienced sailors from many countries to take part in these events and take home the message that running such an event would be a great idea to raise local interest. Essential if the class and sport is to continue growing. I have often returned home from a week at a major championship wondering why I did not have enough time to talk to other competitors. For different reasons his year's events in CRO and GER gave plenty of time for chatting and were more enjoyable for it (for me anyway).

Gavin Watson: The reduction in competing skippers probably 12, would lead to a deficit of approx. £4300 in working budget, based on recent entry fees, making it difficult to understand where and how any reduction in entry fees could be made.

Effectively Appendix D offers a more elite approach where many of the bottom third would not be competing. Many IOM sailors who are in this bracket enjoy these championships with many using advice offered by more experienced skippers to spring-board both personal performance at further championships and on home soil where advice continues to pass down. At present the European championships are over subscribed with often two or more bids coming from OA's willing to host, with skippers willing to compete and NCA's + OA.s willing to host, making changes to the format would seem rash at this time.