



2023 International 5.5M Class AGM Minutes

1630 - September 24 2023, YCCS

Present: Louise Morton, Peter Vlasov, Simon Pfandler, Liz Haines

Boats attending:

SUI 217	NOR 57	GBR 43
BAH 23	FRA 43	GBR 41
BAH 26	SUI 211	ITA 79
NOR 69	SUI 232	AUS 66
ITA 72	BAH 25	AUS 63
SUI 201	GER 39	GBR 40
POL 17	AUS 44	GER 122
GER 69	SUI 226	SUI 219
ITA 36	ITA 6	FRA 50
GER 125	ITA 55	SUI 214
GRE 5	FRA 63	GER 30

1. Welcome and apologies.

The President Louise Morton welcomed members to the meeting and a minute's silence was observed in memory of members who had recently passed including:

- Robin Aisher
- Peter Shanks
- Johan Gullichsen from Finland known as 'The Professor'

2. President's Report

LM noted a correction to the President's Report, there are in fact 8 entries from Italy into this years' World Championships and we are delighted to have them.

3. Approval of the 2022 AGM Minutes, and the 2023 President's Meeting Minutes

Proposed by GBR 43 and seconded by BAH 25



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After the approval was seconded, NOR 57 (KN) queried the outcome of the discussion around support boats as it was noted in the 2022 Minutes. BAH 25 confirmed that the Minutes were documented correctly. The proposal as presented in the 2022 AGM was voted down. An alternative proposal was not presented at the time, or for this AGM. It was noted that further discussion on this topic should be via the process of lodging an agenda item three weeks prior to the scheduled AGM with a supporting proposal document that all members can review prior to the AGM.

4. Financial Report, Accounts and Budget

Financial Report - Simon Pfandler

Highlights:

- annual fees are slightly under but this is partly due to exchange rate variances as the accounts are prepared in CHF and most billing is in EUR.
- Donations for the book - Peter Vlasov has approached all donors to the book project about re-purposing the funds for a different project as the book is now not going ahead.
- 10,000 EUR was set aside for these World titles in the event that we did not get enough entries to pay the minimum to YCCS for running the event.
- This was not required due to there being 34 entries for the event this year, which leaves funds available for the Inventory project, and the Class Secretary travel costs which we will vote on later in the meeting.

Financial Accounts to the end of August - LM asked if the group approved the accounts and budget for next year as per the financial statements.

Approval was proposed by AUS 66 and Seconded by BAH 25

Budget Comments and Questions:

- Magazine earnings are positive, and it is our intention to retain Robert Deaves for the next year. The class is very grateful for his continued support.
- Do we need to retain funds in reserve for the NY Worlds? We will vote on that later.
- BAH 26 (GM) asked with reference to the funds for the book - is there any work that was done on this project that we will receive? LM responded that there is not as what was forwarded is not usable and Matti Muoniovaara who managed the project is incommunicado.
- LM confirmed the Inventory project proposed by Sebastian Schmidt (to be discussed later) is a better use of these funds
- BAH (GM) has observed that some of the historic results on the website are not correct and he will be happy to work with Robert Deaves to correct them
- SUI 219 (MD) asked why there was not a Practice Race for the Worlds if there was budget available?



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- LM responded with two reasons. At the Hanko World Championships where a practice race was offered, sailors did not take it seriously. Also, at the time this decision was made, there was not budget to allow for this
- LM noted sailors would like a practice race in the future, and we will consider it for the next World Championships.
- GM noted that historically, if practice races are offered this will impact entries on the SGC
- MC requested a practice race for 2024 World Championships
- to that end, please enter as early as possible for the WC as leaving it to the last minute reduces planning options for the event

5. New York Yacht Club World Championships 2024

The budget and an estimate of costs for the event have been presented in the AGM papers.

This budget is based on 17 boats, but we should also note that as a World Sailing International Class we are expected to have 25 boats at a World Championships.

Therefore ask for a show of hands to determine who is intending to go to the World Championships in New York in July 2024 was requested

8 boats indicated - Yes

3 boats indicated they were considering the event

- GBR 43 (PM) noted that there was a lack of positive response from the members in the USA and this has had an impact on planning for organisers and owners.
- It was also noted that measurement will be a challenge in the US, this is not insurmountable but it is a consideration
- How certain are we that the US will field seven boats

The question was asked of the 'maybe' voters - what are their reasons for voting 'maybe'?

GM noted all the reasons discussed above, but also it does seem a long way to go for 7 races.

NOR 57 (KN) commented that the timing is not great for the European season

SUI 217 (AB) noted that this event is also affecting the planning of the European events for 2024

Further discussion noted office bearers have tried their best to achieve the NYYC event and

BAH 25 (PV) noted that previously events proposed in Key Biscayne and the Bahamas did not go ahead due to cost.

Should the class choose a location based on the existing boats in the fleet, or somewhere the class is not so well known? Which option is more likely to grow the fleet?

LM asked who would support making the event in Benodet September 2024 a World Championship instead of a European Championship?

19 boats voted for Benodet as the World Championships.

7 boats voted they would go to both NYYC and Benodet if that was an option



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GBR 43 (PM) says there isn't enough support for the NYYC World Championships.
GER 30 (FC) asked if he should re-propose Flensburg? It is however now a bit late to consider this. He also suggested the RYS in Cowes for a future event and LM supports a proposal for RYS UK.

Action - proposal for UK - RYS Cowes event

6. World Championship Proposals

Benodet World Championship September 2024

FRA V43 Florence Piriou and Jean-Bernard Datry presented the proposal for Benodet for the 2024 Europeans/World Championships, dates to be adjusted if necessary, currently scheduled for the first week in September 2024.

NOR 69 (BW) noted the dates as per the original proposal clash with Cannes.

FRA V43 confirmed the dates are flexible and the group voted for the 2024 World Championship to be hosted by Benodet. Votes - too many to count.

The slides for this presentation are [here](#)

LM - invited the group to vote on making the 2024 World Championships in Benodet in September with dates to allow for the Cannes event. Vote was overwhelmingly in support.

Sopot World Championship June 2025

POL 17 (MK) presented a proposal to host the 2025 World Championships in June 2025 in Sopot, Poland. The slide deck is [here](#)

June is proposed as the winds are likely to be the best at that time of year.

LM - invited the group to vote and this proposal had unanimous support

Brunnen World Championships 2026

SUI 217 (AB) presented a proposal to host the 2026 World Championships in Brunnen, Switzerland.

The slides for this deck are [here](#)

LM - invited the group to vote and this proposal had unanimous support

7. Evolution Classification dates - Proposal to change class rules regarding crossover dates

The proposal is to change the classification dates for the Evolution class. Currently they are 1969 - 1994, change 1994 to 1996 to include 6 or 7 boats that fit speed-wise better into the Evolution rather than the Modern classification.

AUS 63 (MC) asked whether there should also be adjustments made to the Classics category?

It was agreed this should be handed back to the Technical Committee, and Christof Wilke to discuss, and then do a referendum amongst Evolution owners only as it is not relevant for other owners.

Action- Liz to ask Kasper and Sebastian Schmidt for a list of Evolution owners



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8. Technical Committee Re-election

LM invited the group to re-elect the Technical Committee.
Proposed by AUS 63 and seconded by AUS 66

9. International 5.5M Class Representatives Re-election

LM invited the group to re-elect the current office bearers.
Proposed by BAH 25 (MH) and seconded by BAH 26 (GM)

10. Formalise Class Secretary position

PV advised the group that Liz Haines had joined as Class Secretary and 2022/2023 and he confirmed that Simon had allowed for it in the budget.

11. Intl 5.5m Historical Register

The class extends its gratitude to Sebastian Schmidt for starting this important project and notes the funding requirements detailed in the agenda item 11 paper.
LM invited the group to vote for the International Class to cover the outstanding balance of EUR 7500.00 for the project, and the ongoing management costs.
This was voted FOR unanimously.

AOB

LM advised the group that after discussion with Jurg Menzi, who started the Alpen Cup, the Committee had decided to move the Alpen Cup to Fraglia Vela Riva in 2024. Difficulties in negotiating with the Circolo Vela Torbole and damage inflicted to the boats in the less than suitable marina had been the deciding factors. Should Riva not work out then she was sure a move back to Torbole would be possible.

Alpen Cup Dates: 17 - 20 April 2024

No other business was tabled.