**Minutes of Fireball International Rear Commodores Meeting**

**Monday 21h00 UTC by Skype**

**Attendees**:  David Laing; Debbie Kirkby; Jakub Napravnik; Ben Schulz

**Apologies**: Hiroshi Kato – Could not connect due to bad internet connection

**Welcome**

David Laing welcomed the Rear Commodores to this special meeting and asked for nominations to chair the meeting. David was elected unopposed.

**Formation of Task Team**

David addressed the meeting outlining the reason for the formation of the committee and the scope of its role. The formation of the committee was endorsed at a council meeting last week to address issues that have arisen from the recent election. These issues were discussed below.

**Valid NCA’s able to ratify at council meetings**

David advised that we are asked to recommend criteria that would help to define a valid NCA.

This is in response to the issues regarding the small NCAs that appeared during the election process.

Jakub suggested that an NCA should need to be recognised by the National Sailing Association in their country.

Ben agreed that this made sense using the example - Fireball Australia needs to be recognised by Yachting Australia as a class association to be an active NCA.

David Laing stated that the same was applicable in South Africa.

There was then discussion on what were the minimum positions that should be filled on an NCA committee.

It was agreed that an NCA requires a Chairman (Commodore or President), a Secretary and a Treasurer as a bare minimum.

It was agreed that the Committee recommend to Council - that for an NCA to be recognised they must –

* Be recognised by the National Sailing Association in their country
* Have a Chairman (Commodore or President), a Secretary and a Treasurer

**Constitution Issues**

It was agreed that the constitution needed a review to address the voting issues encountered during the election.

The Committee agreed to go away and review the constitution and converse via email regarding any recommended changes. It was noted that any changes to the constitution would be a long term project.

**Unifying Commodore.  Potential Individuals**

David advised the Committee that Joe Jospe had been confirmed by the Executive as the next Commodore after the election process. Joe however has agreed to step aside allowing a a new Commodore to be appointed by Council provided that this committee could come up with a suitable candidate.

Over the last week a number of names had been put on the table –

Louis Smyth from Ireland

Chris Payne from Australia

Steve Chesney from UK

Peter Koran from Czech Republic

Richard Anderton from UK

It was determined that Louis Smyth and Chris Payne were not suitable as they had been involved in the election in one way or another.

Peter Koran was not willing to stand.

Richard Anderton had not been contacted and it was not known whether he was prepared to stand.

Steve Chesney had offered to stand. The committee were each asked whether they felt Steve would be an appropriate unity candidate. All present stated that they knew Steve and believed he would be good. All felt that Steve was an appropriate candidate.

Ben Schulz asked whether the committee wanted to approach Richard Anderton. It was felt by all that it was not necessary as Steve was considered a good choice and was willing to take on the roll.

It was agreed unanimously that Steve Chesney be recommended as the next Commodore of Fireball International to Council provided that Hiroshi Kato was in agreement.

Ben Schulz said he would email Hiro and ask for his opinion today.

If Hiro is in agreement then David will advise the Executive of our recommendations.

**Other business**

Ben asked what was the process from here.

It was agreed that once the Executive was notified it would up to Joe Jospe to resign as Commodore – after 1st January 2015, allowing Council to appoint a new Commodore.

This Committee would table the recommendation of Steve Chesney asking for approval by Council.

If Steve was approved by a majority then he would be Commodore.

Assuming that Steve is approved then a meeting of the Rear Commodores and Steve would be convened to discuss the filling of the appointed positions on the Executive.

There was no other business.

**Meeting closed at UTC 22:23. Next meeting to be scheduled as required.**