

Fireball Executive meeting of April 6, 2021; 20:00 UTC - online

Minutes

Present: Christina Härdi, Heather Macfarlane, Jakub Napravnik, Cormac Bradley, Dave Hall, Eveline Chisholm, Linus Eberle, Mianne Erne (minutes).

Agenda

1. Minutes Fireball Executive meeting of 2 February, 2021; online
2. List of venues/dates for the events 22 including pros and cons
3. Marketing of the Fireball: possibilities, tools, personnel, costs
4. fees 2021
5. AOB

Minutes

- 1. Minutes Fireball Executive meeting of 2 February, 2021; online (hostpoint)**
 - the minutes are approved.
- 2. List of venues/dates for the events 22 including pros and cons**
 - **Worlds 22 in Geelong:** Bad news – several aspects make it unlikely that Worlds 22 can be held as planned: quarantine measures will not be lifted soon enough, vaccination schedule, costs for air travel and containers are prohibitively high, etc. other classes have cancelled their international events in Australia for 2022. Geelong would be willing to postpone the event to November 2022, but this would cut the sailing season in the northern hemisphere short (even shorter: most NCAs will not be able to start racing at the usual dates)
 - > International situations:
 - Canada are planning Nationals late in the season, at the moment interregional travel is problematic
 - Ireland: season is starting late
 - Czechia: a Worlds in November in Australia wouldn't shorten their season considerably
 - UK: not keen on November event in Australia, though it wouldn't clash with Nationals. Can 6 months' postponement guarantee enough change in the situation to make the event possible?
 - An event in Europe in 2022 would be more flexible
 - IRL is willing to host a 2022 event, probably in July/August. Howth is still a possible location, regardless of the dredging of the harbour; if Howth can't do it, two other clubs have already been tentatively contacted. Cormac is in charge.
 - SLO are available for a big event – might serve as back-up for worst-case scenario if, for any reason, Worlds in Ireland are impossible in 2022, then Slovenia might organize Europeans.
 - Europeans 2022 in Nice have been cancelled

Decisions:

- The Worlds 2022 go to Ireland
- The Worlds in Australia are postponed to February 2024 (thus giving a longer than 9 months' break (probably 18 months) between Worlds in Europe and Australia)
- in 2023, Europeans will be scheduled. Slovenia is proposed.

3. Marketing of the Fireball: possibilities, tools, personnel, costs

- Marketing needs experts
- Dinghy sailing isn't getting bigger, mostly the growth of one class means the weakening of another class.
- We need to make our class attractive, choose good venues.
- Social aspects are very important
- Try to attract mixed teams, younger teams
- Be inclusive and friendly, work with social media (regular, frequent postings!)
- NCAs have to do the groundwork, FI should provide material, give NCAs ideas
- Heather might have someone who'd have the know-how.

Decision: a subcommittee (e.g. Heather, Dave and ??) for a marketing concept is to be formed. Heather will take it in hand.

4. fees 2021

- The fees for 2021 should be levied – we can't skip two years' fees, and we don't want to send out negative signals concerning the season 2021.

Decision: we charge the fees for 2021 as usual.

5. AOB

No requests for AOB

AI sends greetings from Africa

End of meeting: 21:15 UTC

Aarau, 12 April, 2021

Mianne Erne