October 2026 FI Executive Meeting Minutes

Date and time:

- 14 Oct 2026 07:00 UTC on Zoom.

Attendees

- Nick Rees (Commodore)
- Olivier Burgaud (Secretary)
- Dave Hall (Technical Committee Chair)
- Alastair Bush (Rear Commodore Africa) (Apologies)
- Hiroshi Kato (Rear Commodore Asia)
- Heather Macfarlane (Rear Commodore Australia)
- Jakub Napravnik (Rear Commodore Central Europe)
- Cormac Bradley (Rear Commodore Western Europe)

Progress & Status

- **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The executive approved the April minutes
- **Executive Elections:** Most NCAs have responded to the election poll and all NCA who did respond accepted Commodore and Rear Commodore nominations. Hence the executive is unchanged.
- **Financial status:** Total income to date this year is £761, however, payments from Royal Torbay and membership invoice income are still pending. Balance sheet shows total cash assets of £33,000, including £10,000 invested via a Wise account.
- **Governance Documents:** Nick reviewed NCA constitutions against a set of criteria; gaps were found in:
    - USA: Executive powers, elections and term lengths. AGM Rules and quora. Financial details, constitutional amendments and dissolution process.
    - France: Still developing theirs. Nick has commented on a draft that lacked information about Membership rules, committee powers, AGM rules and quora, financial matters and constitution amendments.
    - Switzerland: Executive powers and AGM quora.
    - Ireland: Lacked a dissolution clause
    - Canada: Lacked a dissolution clause and details of the committee powers.
    - Australia and Belgium: Lacked information on AGM quorum.

- **Boat Naming issues:** The UK NCA had presented a clause drafted by a member proposing an addition to the class rules to prevent offensive boat names. Rather than a global rule, the Executive decided to propose the UKFA to trial a national rule regarding offensive names/graphics, with a recommendation that rules focus on "bringing the class into disrepute" rather than specific words. It was agreed that any future rules on boat aesthetics will be included in the **Notice of Race (NoR)** for international events rather than the Class Rules to allow for flexibility and a "grandfather clause" for existing boats.
- **2027 European Championships** are being organized for late September to early October. Current focus is on finalizing the Notice of Race (NoR). There is a conflict between starting the 2028 Europeans regatta on Sunday (traditional) versus Monday (to allow two days for measurement over the weekend). Olivier to see if the event can be brought forward a day, with measurement starting on the Friday.
- **2028 World Championships** in Kenya are progressing with hotel arrangements and a target for the NoR by the end of November.
- **Future Events:**
    - 2029 Worlds: Riva is the likely venue over Arco due to better social facilities, though launch/recovery can be difficult in high winds.
    - 2030 Worlds: Dates need to be firmed up.
    - The Czech NCA has expressed interest in hosting the Europeans in 2031.
- **World Sailing Agreement:** The status of the membership agreement remains pending with World Sailing.
- **Marketing and Fleet Development:** Limited progress on Annual Report translations to all NCA languages due to travel commitments: GER completed by SUI, Japanese 8 of 16 NCA reports translated. Social Media **a**dministration is split across three Facebook entities (Page, Group, and Grapevine Gallery) and various NCA-level Instagram accounts.
- **Italy Worlds 2029:**

Action Items

- **Nick:** to go back to NCA's with comments on their governing documents
- **Dave:** Chase Royal Torbay for outstanding payment.
- **Jakub:** Send the Czech Republic constitution to Nick.
- **Cormac:** Revise Appendix B regarding standards of conduct for boat names/graphics.
- **Olivier:** Meet with the club to discuss measurement schedules
- **Olivier:** To send the draft NoR to the executive for review by end of October.
- **Olivier:** To set up the 2027 Europeans website, including the entry link, in consultations with Ruedi.
- **Alistair:** Aim to have the Kenya Worlds NoR ready by the end of November.
- **Nick:** Forward email chains regarding Italy to Jakub

- **Olivier:** To follow up with Jean regarding 2030 World dates in France.
- **Jakub:** to get in contact with Stephen after Nick has forwarded him email chains to him.
- **Heather:** Send the Japanese version of the annual report to Hiroshi for review.
- **Heather:** To send out a request to the NCAs reminding them of 2026 reports.