Minutes of FI Executive meeting held October 17, 2012

Present on skype:

Peter Colebank, Andrew Davies, Tom Egli, Penny Gibbs, Joe Jospe, François Schluchter, Maja Suter, Robert Thompson, Russell Thorne

Absent:

Cormac Bradley, Hiroshi Kato

# Adoption of the New Constitution

Joe Jospe announced that the new constitution had been approved without any dissenting votes. There will be a proposal to amend the clause to change the governing law from that of Great Britain to the laws of England. This will be circulated in early 2013.

There was a discussion regarding the establishment of the new subscription and boat registration fees payable to FI. The new rates will require approval by Council. It was recognized that the major impact would likely fall on the UKFA. Joe Jospe will contact the UKFA to discuss the rate proposal in advance of circulating it to the Council.

Tom Egli reported that there will be some modification required to our Class Rules to reflect the provisions of the new constitution. This will be forthcoming and will require ISAF approval.

# Fireball International Web Site

Ben Schulz was congratulated and thanked for his excellent work on the new FI web site. Ben reported that there has been excellent traffic on the site and the feedback has been very good. In order to ensure that the news section continues to enjoy sufficient content, the Rear Commodores were asked to promote timely reporting from the NCAs in their region.

# Worlds Venue Selection

Andrew Davies reported that options were still being considered for 2014. Possible venues were in Africa, Turkey, and Southeast Asia. Given the unrest in Turkey and the Middle East, and the concern that Turkey is too geographically near to the venues selected for 2013 and 2015, this destination is not being favoured at the present time. After an animated discussion regarding the possibility of selecting a venue in Africa, the consensus emerged that a World Championship in 2014 would not provide sufficient lead time to maximize the potential for fleet building in the region. FI remains interested in holding future World Championships in Africa and encourages the African NCAs to submit an application in the future. Discussion took place on the desirability of having a long term plan whereby the regions would be scheduled to host World Championships. This agenda item will continue to be explored and discussed.

Rob Thompson stated his concern with regard to how the bids for 2015 were decided. It was explained the decision process for 2015 was based on the venue selection criteria approved by Council in Australia in January of this year and voted on by a quorum of the FI executive in Italy in July.

It is the plan to decide on the 2016 World Championship venue in Slovenia in September 2013. This information should be communicated to all parties interested in submitting an application to host the event.

# World Championship Cost Reduction Initiatives

In order to help keep the costs of attending future world championships as low as possible, FI will investigate a number of avenues. The Class could seek a sponsor, much like the 505 Class has done. On a venue by venue basis, FI will investigate the possibility of purchasing insurance for the competitors on a bulk basis. The cost for insurance is not uniform around the world, and is very expensive in some countries. This might represent an attractive opportunity. Negotiations with host clubs will be encouraged. Finally, programs for boat charters will be studied to allow competitors from afar to participate, with the prospect of resale into the host market.

# Conclusion and Adjournment

The skype format appeared to work relatively well. There were a few technical glitches, but overall, communication was good. Given the late hour in Europe and Africa, the meeting was adjourned.

Joe Jospe