**Fireball International**
**Council Meeting 2014, Thailand**

Present
Fireball International Executive:
Joe Jospe
Maja Suter
David Laing
Ben Schulz
Tom Egli
Andrew Davies

Representatives from:
SUI, Christina Haerdi Landerer, Cedric Landerer
FRA, Jean Francois Nouel
AUS, Chris Payne
RSA, Mark Dee

**1. Rear Commodore Africa**
1.1. Peter Colebank (PC) has resigned as Rear Commodore Africa. Council approved David Laing (DL) to serve in the role for the balance of the term. JJ welcomed David to the Executive.
1.2. DL stated that he is pleased to be Rear Commodore Africa
1.3. JJ proposed that Peter Colebank be named as an Honorary Life Member in recognition of his contribution to the Class. Council approved the motion.

**2. Elections**
2.1. JJ informed the meeting that the term of office for the Executive was expiring at the end of this calendar year, and that elections for the Flag officers were required.
2.2. The constitution reads:
"7.2 Council shall call for nominations for Flag Officers not less than eight months prior to the expiry of the current term of office. Nominations shall be closed four months prior to the expiry of the current term of office.
7.3 The Commodore shall be nominated by a NCA and seconded by another NCA. The Rear Commodores shall be nominated by a NCA in their region and seconded by another NCA."
2.3. This time frame means nominations will be open from May 1st until August 31st. Interested parties are encouraged to come forward.
2.4. Maja Suter (MS) suggested a representative from CZE would be a good candidate for RC Europe as CZE is the fastest growing NCA in the world at this time and a new young person would be good for the FI Executive.
2.5. MS will continue to organize European containers.

**3. Technical**
3.1. Tom Egli (TE) explained there had been some good development work on
containers and framing inside to allow 10 / 12 boats in 40' boxes. This should
reduce the cost of shipping to major regattas. The cost of shipping a boat
GBR / THA / GBR with 8 boats in the container was £800.
3.2. Sails: TE is waiting for more information from the sail makers.
3.3. Trialing: TE reported on the following trails of equipment:-
3.4. Carbon Booms, Canada, Phil Locker. This will also mean loose footed
mainsails.
3.5. Carbon Rudders, UKFA
3.6. The FRP spinnaker pole on TE's boat is now being sold commercially in the UK.
3.7. The corrector weight of the boat will be reduced by 3kgs this had been
discussed in Slovenia and again at this meeting and has been met with general
approval. The next step will be a formal vote.

**4. Website / Marketing**
4.1. Chris Payne (CP) thought the International website was very good; he went on
to say that the Tasar Class was in the process of approaching Jono in Adelaide
to build a similar website for them.
4.2. Ben Shulz (BS) expanded the discussion by saying he was always very short of
content and getting people to contribute is a very difficult task. He is always
trawling around other websites looking for material.
4.3. Only four NCA's had posted material directly on the international website.
4.4. Maja Suter (MS) suggested that the website should be multi lingual, similar to
her old Euro website. She would also like to see content more focused on
major championships.
4.5. Jean Francois Nouel stated that the French prefer their own website because it
is in French.
4.6. CP suggested the marketing and media exposure could be improved, with
particular focus on our major championships. CP proposed that an appointment
be made for this function.
4.7. The idea was met with approval.

**5. Future World Championships**
5.1. Andrew Davies (AD) reminded the meeting of the diary.
**2105 Pwllhelli, GBR**
5.2. The UKFA will officially launch the Championship over the Easter weekend. The
Club have a multilingual website they use for all their major championships this
will be closely linked to our site.
5.3. There will be a large publicity campaign to "push" the event. AD working closely with Jeremy White (UKFA chairman). There will be a multi lingual NOR. All Nationals will be targeted with promotional material. The French Nationals being near Cherbourg will be an easy venue to target.
5.4. JJ understands that some UK teams have already booked accommodation in Pwllheli for next year's world.
**2016 Mossell Bay, RSA**
5.5. The Chairman of the UKFA has expressed concern about the selection of South Africa as the venue for the World Championship in 2016 and requested that this decision be reviewed. Council remained committed to South Africa.
5.6. MS asked DL to give a short overview of Mossell Bay, South Africa.
5.7. DL spoke very positively about Mossell Bay and how good it is as a sailing venue and also as a safe holiday destination. DL is going to encourage people to come early and/or stay later to enjoy the surrounding area as it is a world class holiday destination.
5.8. DL will be putting information together soon in order to attract as many people as possible to attend the event.
5.9. The dates are now established, Monday 5th - Friday 16th December 2-15, 2016.
5.10. AD has had several meetings with DL and Anthony Parker. South Africa night will be scheduled as part of the GBR World's social programme.
5.11. A discussion on scheduling World Championships ensued. There have been a number of proposals to allow a suitable gap between World Championships to promote better participation. Council decided to accept this principle. Consequently, given a December date for 2016 and a likely April/May date for Barbados, there will be no scheduled Worlds in 2017. There will be a strong focus on a large European Championship for that year.
**2018 Barbados**
5.12. A return to this venue was requested and approved by Council in Slovenia. It will be the 50th World Fireball Championship.

**6. Future European Championships**
6.1. The following are currently proposed:-
**2014 Shetland**
**2016 Lake Garda,**
6.2. Suggestion from within the Class. AD to check availability.
**2017 Roses Bay**
6.3. AD has visited the area last October. This is a great venue although work needs to be done with the Spanish Federation as they focus mainly on Olympic Classes.

**7. Any Other Business**
7.1. JJ wished to see a communications plan for the lead into the 2015 Worlds.
7.2. AD had visited the London dinghy show where the interest for next year's worlds was very high with many people saying how much they are looking forwards to the event.The challenge will be to encourage overseas teams to come and take part in what should be the largest worlds since the Teignmouth, 2005 worlds.
7.3. JJ closed the meeting by thanking all who had attended.

Andrew Davies
April 2014