

## Fireball International

### Notes from the Open Forum at Worlds in Carnac (France), 27 Aug 2018

#### Present:

- **Members of the Executive:** Debbie Kirkby (NA), Christina Härdi (commodore), Linus Eberle (secretary), Jakub Napravnik (E-Europe), David Laing (Africa), Tom Egli (technical committee), Mianne Erne (minutes)
- **Representatives** from AUS, BEL, CZE, FRA, GBR, IRL, ITA, KEN, RSA, SUI

#### Open Agenda

The open forum was opened by a **minute of silence in remembrance of Louis Smyth**.

Mark Cummings (CAN): **Amateur builders** should have a means to get **wide-bow boat plans**. Tom Egli: There are only plans from the 1970s, for narrow bows. We would need to hire someone to design wide-bow plans for self-builders. Cost: some 8'000 – 10'00 dollars. It's harder to do than meets the eye. Making such plans is a question of whether there is enough interest. Most people who build want to have a project, most don't want to race. You can take the class rules and build from that. Christina: there are also school projects building Fireballs. Building a boat that measures in is very difficult to do in a first attempt. Umberto Cocuzza: In Italy there are two schools who are building Fireballs.

Heather MacFarlane (AUS): **Website for Fireball Worlds 2022** in Geelong, Australia is being worked on, is more or less ready to go online.

Tom (KEN): **50 years of Kenyan Fireball** – next year a **celebrating event** will be held, hopefully some teams will come from abroad Some boats for charter are available. Chris Shaw (KEN) – Worlds in 2003 were well-liked, they think they'd be up to organising another Worlds. Transport might be a problem though.

Heather: is there any way **to make transport to international events cheaper**? Joe Jospe (CAN): Shipping companies are not internationally strong, it's a different company each time.

Pete Badham (GBR): Why can't we have **carbon spinnaker poles**. Tom: We've tried it, but they broke more easily than regular ones. Carbon is very expensive in some places in the world. There are very similar alternatives around. FI could do a study about what is available where, see if it makes sense to make a rule-change. Mark (CAN): in North America it's easier to get carbon spars than other material – so why not do everything in carbon? Tom Egli: That would become more expensive, would mean many other changes.

Chris Payne (AUS): **Batons** might work better if the bottom ones were longer. Tom is going to look into that.

Heather: We should think about **how we market our boat**. Neil Cramer (IRL): Wasn't there supposed to be a **video**? Chris Payne thinks Steve has asked someone to do it. Derian Scott (GBR): UKFA sent in a list of pros and cons for Fireball, we should **discuss how Fireball can be promoted**. Christina: each NCA has different problems, different solutions. We should spread these ideas world-wide. Some NCAs have charter boats, some provide road trailers. Debbie (CAN): In her club, they went to Boy Scouts to try to get kids into sailing. Christina: Sailing Fireballs at club events might also attract sailors.

Chris (KEN): What is going on on **lay-day**? Are we/the organizers flexible? Jakub: it depends on the NOR, on the RO. Denis: Laydays, especially if something is organized, are very nice for people who have come from far away.

Stan (KEN): There should be **rules for financial support** for attendance of students at Worlds.

Christina: This is on Executive's agenda.

### **Future events:**

Worlds are more or less fixed as far as 2022:

- Montreal, Canada: 2019
- Howth, Ireland: 2020
- Geelong, Australia: 2022

Europeans:

- 2019 European Championship in Czechia.
- 2020 no EC (Worlds in Howth, Ireland)
- 2021 Big European championship hopefully in Italy
- 2022 European Championship possibly in southern France

Collision of dates between Europeans in CZE and UK-Nationals. Yakub comments, explains. Executive is working on a calendar tool to prevent or at least minimize such collisions in the future.