

Country Code : _ _ _

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Wednesday 14th December 2005.

Venue: Elwood Sailing Club, Melbourne.

AGENDA and proposals

1)-Welcome, and registration of delegates and votes.

It is vitally important that the membership, the sailors, through their national associations participate in the annual meeting of the class.

Attached is a **delegate registration form** – please return it.

You can also participate by **email voting** –return this document with your vote and feel free to add comments.

If you cannot send a representative, you could also appoint a **proxy or 'alternate' (form attached)** to vote on your behalf.

2)-Minutes of the 2004 AGM –Leba, Poland – and any matters arising- **link to 2004 minutes.**

3)-Chairmans Report

Attached is the **report submitted to the ISAF Windsurfing Committee** at the Annual Conference in Singapore (November).

Clearly, there are many challenges facing the Formula Class. It is my opinion that these are best faced by accepting continued stability within Class Rules, whilst introducing some changes to Championship Rules and seeking to make the class more attractive to sailors, sponsors and media.

4)-Financial Statement

Coming as it does towards the end of an IWA financial year, we are only able to show full **accounts for the year ended 31st December 2004.**

However, an assessment of the 2005 year will be presented to the meeting; specifically a report on the financial aspects of class championships and other events.

5)-Class Rule changes

No formal submissions to change the Class Rules for 2006 have been received.

SURVEY or REFERENDUM ?– however, there has been much discussion this year within the class, from many sources (committee, industry, national associations etc) regarding the future direction of the class ; and equipment rules are an integral part of that discussion.

No concensus has been reached regarding the format for change – a wider consultation is required, and the opinions of sailors within each member country are needed .

Please read – '**View from the Chair**-where do we go from here?' -posted on the class website, and circulated to national class associations.

5.a)- We support the proposal to conduct a Survey YES / NO

5.b)- We support the proposal to hold a Referendum YES / NO

see Appendix A

6)-Championship Rules

Proposals to change the rules for 2006 (**Championship Rules 2005**).

- 6.a)- We support the proposal to add a Masters World Title YES / NO
see Appendix B
- 6.b)- We support the proposal to add weight divisions YES / NO
see Appendix C
- 6.c)- We support the proposal to permit the controlled use
of GPS for promotion and media purposes YES / NO
see Appendix D

7)-Future Championship venues

The class have contracted Rhodes Windsurfing Academy to host the 2006 World Championship during the first 2 weeks of September. RWA have until the AGM in Melbourne to confirm acceptance of terms.

The following alternate bids have been received, and you are asked to indicate your preference *see Appendix E*

- 7.a)- Silvaplana, SUI ; Aug. ___ 7.b)- Fortaleaza, BRA ; Nov. ___
- 7.c)- Committee source alternative venue ___

8)-Elections

There are no elections this year, unless a vacancy occurs before the scheduled meeting.

9)-Any other business

- a) **World Ranking Scheme** - a report will be presented to the meeting and published on website prior to the meeting .

We support the proposal, from the Chairman, to delegate the Committee to review the scheme and agree improvements in the light of the AGM response to the report YES / NO

- b) **Qualification system –**
We support the proposal regarding ‘places by right’ YES / NO
see Appendix F

APPENDICES

A- Proposal from the chairman Survey .

The class committee put together a detailed Questionnaire which is circulated to every national windsurfing association –both those committed to Formula Racing and those currently not actively promoting Formula .

Associations are requested to circulate the questionnaire to all its racing members , to ensure sailors views are heard.

A final report summarising the findings will be published.

Referendum

The report will be translated into a series of proposals regarding Class Rule and Championship Rule changes. These will be circulated as per the Survey, and Associations / sailors asked to vote on the proposals. Finally the results of the referendum will be formulated into submissions to go before the 2006 AGM of the Class.

B- proposal from the Chairman

Since the Formula Class was formed it has not been able to hold a valid 'World Championship' for Youth Woman, according to ISAF regulations governing 'international' windsurfing classes.

As an International Class, Formula can award 4 ISAF World Titles. The proposal is to allocate one to Masters (open), in addition to the existing titles for Men, Women and Youth (open).

The Masters Title to be competed for at the Formula Festival –ie the Formula Junior, Youth and Masters Championships.

C-proposal from the Chairman, based on report from ITA Formula Class

Statement about lightweight and heavyweight sailors in Italian racing season 2005

In fall 2004 FW International Class launched an experimental test about lightweight and heavyweight division as it happens in Raceboard Class, inviting all National Class Associations to verify if this solution may be interesting for the Class development.

In Italy, considering the average physical mass of our population, we decided to determine a break between Lightweight and Heavyweight at 75 kg. instead of 75-80 as for international rules.

Obviously northeuropean and american people are usually more tall and heavy than Mediterranean one and so we understood what International FW Class suggested.

So we have written an Appendix to FW Rules as following:

1/ All sailors who weigh till 75 kg. are Lightweight. The final results for this Division will be extract from the general final results with the relevant points as for Italian Sailing Federation Rules. All sailors who weigh more than 75 kg. are Heavyweight Division and they have points for the general final results only.

2/ Competitors' weigh may be checked by a measurer or by people delegated by the Race Committee in which the Italian FW Class Management trust. This general rule shall apply in all regattas (national, inter-regio or regional level). The event organizer shall inform the Class about the name of people delegated and the Class will confirm it in writing. If this general rule shall not apply, the Class may not accept the final results of Lightweight Division.

3/ When entering a regatta all competitors shall self-certificate their weigh.

4/ Competitors' weigh may be checked before, after or during a regatta, for a relevant protest, for a Race Committee decision, by random or by lot. The relevant competitor shall immediately go to the balance with the people delegated by the Race Committee and weighed without equipment and any wet suit.

5/ All competitors entered as Lightweight that during a check weigh more than 75 kg. will be included among the general final results only but they will not be disqualified.

6/ We will apply sanctions not for weigh difference, but for self-certificated Division final results only.

During Italian 2005 racing season about 20% of competitors self-certificated themselves as Lightweight, but checks has been made during the 5-6 National Regattas (National Champhionships and Italian Cup) only. At Inter-Regio and Regional level all competitors know very well each other and it's more difficult to take friends for a ride.

Anyway during National Championships in Reggio Calabria some competitors has been found more heavy than 75 kg. and so excluded from the Lightweight final results.

We think for the future it's best to weigh always all competitors when entering or at the first skipper's meeting because it's more difficult to disqualify them after a check during regattas, and so giving DSQ points for all the previous races already ended in the previous racing days too.

On the whole the experiment has been positive, because people whose weigh is between 60 and 70 kg., especially masters and grandmasters, have found special Division results with the pleasure to be considered. Some complaints has been made about the rigid limit of 75 kg. preferring a choice of 5 kg. tolerance as it happens in International Rules.

Our Managing Board and Regional Delegates Meeting discussed it early November and decided that for 2006 racing season to respect international rules as they will be confirmed or changed in Melbourne AGM. As Italian Association we think that 75-80 kg. is not the best for Mediterranean (but we suppose for Asian ones too) competitors, and it would be best 70-75 kg. or a range between 71-73 and 76-78 kg.

Marco Rossi
Italian Windsurfing Classes
National Co-ordinator

Massimo Lucchesi
Italian Formula
Windsurfing Class
President

D-proposal from Devon Boulon , supported by the committee

Many challenges are facing racing, including increasing the appeal to both sailors and media, and therefore sponsors.

Currently Championship Rules prevent the carrying of GPS –see # 22 Electronic Equipment ,Compasses & Communication.

The committee accept that the use of GPS can be controlled to ensure no race advantage is gained by the sailor, but still deliver the benefits alluded to. How GPS can best be utilised is still in the developmental and experimental stage.

It is proposed that a Working Group be formed to report back to the Committee, and that the Committee action suitable ideas during 2006 events.

Attached is the introductory letter from Devon outlining his initial ideas.

E-2006 World Championships

Rhodes Windsurfing Academy are contracted to host the 2006 Worlds on the basis of successfully hosting the 2004 Grand Prix and 2005 Europeans.

RWA have until the AGM to finalise the 2005 obligations , and to offer suitable guarantees regarding the proposed 2006 Worlds.

Alternatives have been sought – and are still being discussed – although 2 firm bids have been received ie from SUI and BRA. Both offer the necessary and normal prize fund for World championships

Please indicate your preference for the three alternatives offered by:

1 = first choice

2 = second choice

3 = third choice

X = not an option

F- proposal from Markus Huhtinen ,vice chairman

A national association has one guaranteed place in Worlds and two in Continentals if it

a) Puts together a series of minimum of three FW races, one of which has to be national championships race.

b) Reports the results and names and numbers of participants to the Class association and IWA. The minimum number of participants must be **(tbc)**

We should then provide national association with suggested rules and guidelines for the national events and national series. We should also give instructions for running the races, scoring etc.