

OCEANIC SUB-COMMITTEE



A Session of the Oceanic Sub-Committee of the International Sailing Federation was held at 16.00 – 18.30 on Monday 5 November 2007 at the Palacio Estoril, Estoril, Portugal

Please refer to the ISAF Offshore Committee and Council minutes of 10–11 November 2007 for the final Council decision on all recommendations and opinions contained within these minutes.

MINUTES

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Present:

Abraham Rosemberg (Chairman)

Jacques Lehn (Vice-Chairman)

Will Apold

Pierre Fehlmann

Alan Green

Giovanni Iannucci

Maximo E.Rivero Kelly

By invitation

John Lewis (Major Event Organisers)

Philip Tolhurst (Chairman Offshore Committee)

Also present:

Norbert Marin (ISAF Technical Co-ordinator)

Apologies:

Guillermo Altadill

Stanley Honey

Please refer to the ISAF website, www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on these minutes.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Oceanic Sub-Committee meeting of 7th November 2006 were noted and there were no matters arising.

2. WORLD SPEED SAILING RECORD COUNCIL

A brief report was given by Claude Breton about speed sailing record achievements.

Concern was expressed about safety arrangements in Oceanic Speed Sailing Records noting a recent example of a 20ft open catamaran. The Sub-committee believed WSSRC should require as a condition of ratification of a record, that an oceanic record attempt follow the guidance in IMO paper MSC/Circ 1174 of 20 May 2005, Ref T2-OSS/1.4 which includes the requirement to inform SAR in advance so that a rescue operation, if necessary, would be more effective. The MSC Circular also gave guidance on minimum safety arrangements and referred to ISAF Offshore Special regulations which should be used when appropriate. Claude Breton said that WSSRC would recommend the use of the MSC Circular but did not guarantee it.

OCEANIC SUB-COMMITTEE (CONT).

3. ISAF REGULATIONS – COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

A long discussion was held regarding **submission 015-07** regarding disbanding the Oceanic Sub-Committee.

Philip Tolhurst explained his idea behind this proposition and two main options were discussed:

- Disbanding the Oceanic Sub-Committee and passing the responsibility to the Offshore Committee.
- Upgrading the Sub-Committee to a full Committee with the right terms of reference and perhaps with a re-structure of the membership including more representatives of the Oceanic arena.

It was the general consensus that with so many oceanic races in the calendar, and its importance in the sailing world the need of an adequate representation within ISAF was unquestionable and it was recommended unanimously to reject this submission.

Recommendation to the Offshore Committee:

The OSC unanimously rejected the submission. Oceanic Racing is an extremely important part of sailing world and should be adequately represented within ISAF. A full Committee with the right set of Terms of Reference would be a more appropriate way to follow. The committee proposes restructuring include more representatives of the Oceanic arena including major events organizers and sailors.

Submission 016-07 was discussed regarding creating a commission, which would potentially have the capacity to meet more than once a year.

Recommendation to the Offshore Committee:

The OSC recommends approval of the submission with the pertinent modifications to the Terms of Reference to include a greater representation in the Committee of Major Events organizers and important sailors of the Oceanic arena.

Submission 017-07 from Swiss Sailing regarding amending the terms of reference of the Oceanic Sub-Committee to include classification of oceanic races was received.

Recommendation to the Offshore Committee:

The OSC recommends approval of the submission.

4. SHORT-HANDED LONG DISTANCE RACING

Philip Tolhurst introduced to the members of the Committee a paper proposing that ISAF should get closer to the organization of short-handed long distance racing. It was noted that the International Regulations Commission supported the gist of the paper but had recommended to the Executive Committee that the paper should not be published as written because of concern over the interpretation of COLREGS expressed in the paper.

The Sub-Committee agreed to support the paper but without the legal arguments.

OCEANIC SUB-COMMITTEE (CONT).

5. OCEANIC RACES HELD IN 2007

- (a) Supporting Paper 5(i)
Supporting paper 5(i) summarising races in 2007 was noted and general discussion regarding their content was held. A race not noted in the supporting paper is added for future reference.

- (b) HSH Nordbank Trans-Atlantic Race
Alan Green gave a report on the 3,600-mile HSH Nordbank Transatlantic 'Blue race' of which he was Race Director in June 2007. the race committee was instructed by race insurers acting on legal advice not to inspect the boats. A non-inspection policy had been applied on other occasions by the New York Yacht Club although inspections seemed to be a regular part of the organization of other races in the USA e.g. the Newport-Bermuda. The sub-committee noted that inspections were normal and comprised a useful function. One MEDEVAC was provided by the Canadian Coast Guard service from St John's Newfoundland which had sent the cutter 'Cape Roger' to take ashore an injured crew member. A pre-arranged contingency plan had been put into effect and communications between all parties had worked smoothly. Official thanks had been sent to Transport Canada. The race tracker system (OC tracker) had been most helpful during the incident.

6. OCEANIC RACES TO BE HELD IN 2008

Supporting paper 6(i) was noted and general discussion regarding its content was held. Two more races were added to the list while the importance of the Class 40 as a safe and fast boat for oceanic races was raised.

7. INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION

- (a) The International Regulations Chairman gave an update on the Commission's meeting earlier in the current ISAF Conference. (See Commission minutes for details)
- (b) Related issues were discussed.

8. SPECIAL REGULATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

The agenda was noted.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Incident Data base

It was agreed the Chairman would consider with the Secretariat ways in which this could be progressed via the ISAF website.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.