

IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee

All three Paralympic Classes made progress this year in becoming stronger world-wide despite the loss of the North American Builder of the Sonar. Sonar International is looking at several possible builders and will most likely decide on one this winter. All moulds are intact and stored in Rochester, New York, USA.

The 2012 IFDS Worlds were held in Punta Gorda, Florida, USA in January in a venue that was supported by many small local businesses with no major sponsor thus opening the door for other venues in the future without large supporters. The City of Punta Gorda, the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club, working with the local Charlotte Harbor Regatta Committee put it all together. The most impressive part was the building of floating docks which were then donated to several local sailing venues including the public Marina, Laishley Park, where the boats were berthed. Also novel was free storage for containers and boats through to the next event in Miami. The event went off well and the sailing was top notch on three courses.

The SKUD18 builder has made a move to a new sail maker due to disappointing quality control of current maker. At the Paralympics the first real Certificates were presented to the sailors.

2.4mR Class is making slow but steady movement toward the One Design as the Norlin Templates have shown almost all recent boats to be One Design. North America has a new builder in the North American Sailing Center who built 13 of the 16 Stars in the Olympics, so needless to report the quality is tops. Two issues were resolved during Measurement to follow future One Design.

At the Paralympics Leo Sanchez was the International Measurer for SKUD18's, Stefan Ryott for 2.4mR's, and myself as Chief Measurer for Sonar's. None of us had any Measurement issues that could not be resolved or in some cases replacements approved in equipment.

All Sonar sailors should be made aware of the Sonar Worlds to be held in Rochester New York, USA, 21-25 August, the same venue as the great 2007 IFDS Worlds.

I am waiting for official word that the 2013 2.4mR Worlds will be held in Poole, Great Britain with dates to be confirmed.

Sailors should check the relevant class websites.

Gene Hinkel
Chair, IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee