

Fireball Executive meeting of February 15, 2023; 21:00 UCT

Minutes

Present: Christina Härdi, Heather Macfarlane, Cormac Bradley, Jakub Napravnik, Guy Newson, Dave Hall, Mianne Erne (minutes).

Agenda

1. Minutes Fireball Executive, Council and Open Forum of 21/22 August, 2022; Dromineer
2. accounting 2022 (not yet reviewed); membership fees;
Budget 2023: Discussion Championship fees yes/no
=> Council decision budget
3. Europeans 24, Worlds 25
4. Coordination of Containers going to Geelong
5. Europeans 23 in SLO: News? To Dos?
6. Perpetual Prizes: Help to retrieve
7. Elections 23: Any input?
8. AOB

Minutes

1. Minutes Fireball Executive, Council and Open Forum of 21/22 August, 2022; Dromineer

- In the list of attendees at the executive meeting, Heather was forgotten; with this amendment the minutes are accepted by all.

2. accounting 2022 (not yet reviewed); membership fees; Budget 2023 : Discussion Championship fees yes/no => Council decision budget

- Guy has managed to collect a big part of the debts owed to FI (about £900!) £340 had to be written off, this amount is untraceable.
- The only point in the budget that led to discussions is the uncertainty of the number of containers to Geelong that will have to be sponsored. Expectations at the moment: 2 containers from UK and Ireland (via Belfast), 1 container from Europe, two or three boats from Japan might share a container with the Tasars going to their Worlds. FI would sponsor that container with £500 per Fireball. The amount in the budget will therefore be enhanced to 16000.-
- Championship fees: up to 2018, fees of £10-20 per boat were collected, in 2019 and 2022 they weren't. **Decision:** Fees will be collected again, starting in 2024.
- Ownership (and costs) of "Worlds" website should be turned over to FI, up to now, ownership had to be changed every few years. The annual fee is about \$30, contract has to be renewed now. **Decision:** renew it for the next 3 years.

3. Europeans 24, Worlds 25

- So far, no venue has been found for the Europeans 2024. "Holiday destinations", as requested at Open Forum in Dromineer, are impossible to get at the moment, even outside main season.
The most likely possibilities at the moment are CZE, or GBR up-grading their Nationals.
- For Worlds 2025 Italy has been asked, venue possibly at Riva (Lake Garda) or Imperia (West of Genoa on the Mediterranean). *Note: on 17 January ITA sent positive reply, for either one or the other of the two venues.*
- Worlds 2026 would be outside Europe again, but numbers at such events have been very low in recent years. It will be necessary to discuss the option of having only 1 in 3 Worlds outside Europe.

4. Coordination of Containers going to Geelong

- At the moment, GBR expects to send one full container and one that might have some room for non-GBR boats, especially Irish boat. Continental boat will probably be problematic because of Brexit custom laws.
- Continental Europe expects to send one container (3 CZE, 3 SUI, possibly some ITA, FRA or SLO). Packing may be done in Prague or Frick (Switzerland), depending on what port will be used.
- 1 or 2 Irish boats plan to purchase or loan Australian boats.
- North America is unlikely to send a container, 1 CAN has already bought an Australian boat, one is planning to charter a boat; no others have signalled intention of travelling.
- JPN may send some boats in a container taking Tasars to their Worlds in Melbourne in early January.
- It is vital that everything that goes to Australia in a container goes back out in the same container.

5. Europeans 23 in SLO: News? To Dos?

- NOR is expected to be finished in March, registration is scheduled to start in May.
- Christina gets in touch with Chris Henderson (International measurer) – we need him to be in Portoroz to qualify as our class measurer.

6. Perpetual Prizes: Help to retrieve

- Some of the perpetual prizes from both Europeans and Worlds are not accounted for. Cormac will send to Christine the list of who won them in Dromineer and took them home – they will be in the UK container to Australia.
- For the Europeans, the prizes for races 8, 9 and 10 seem to have disappeared. Christina will pursue the issue with the European rear commodores.

7. Elections 23: Any input?

- At the end of the year, both Christina and Linus will stand down as commodore and secretary respectively. Cormac, Jakub, Heather be available again as continental rear commodores, David as head of the technical committee, and Guy as treasurer.
- Everybody is asked to come up with people to approach for the available posts.

8. AOB

- Worlds 2024 – Heather hopes containers can be shipped straight to Geelong; if they have to go through customs in Melbourne, a lot more work would be involved and costs invoked.
- Two questions arise concerning discretionary grant awards: Should there be an age limit? Should they be mentioned in the NOR?
Decision: It is not necessarily limited to youth, so no age limit. It will not be included in the NOR, but NCAs are told to inform their members about the possibility.
- Discussion about competition weight – a rather big problem is that centre board weight can vary from 4 to 9 kg. One possibility could be removing centre board but leaving all lines in for weighing. The technical committee is still looking into the matter.
- Report from Rear-Commodore Western Europe: Cormac has heard from all the NCAs. The ones with the most problems regarding numbers of members are Belgium and the Shetlands.
- Italy (Sailing Italia) has set up a new rule that no more than three races a day may be sailed at any event. Christina is trying to get an exemption from that rule but World Sailing has been slow to help.

End of meeting: 22:50 UCT

Aarau, 23 February 2023



Mianne Erne