

International Moth Class Association

12 Salterton Road,
Exmouth,
Devon,
EX8 2BW
UK



Annual General Meeting

Horsens Yacht Club, Denmark.
27th July, 2006.

Agenda

1. Welcome (MR) - Delegates

Australia: Rohan Veal
Great Britain: Simon Payne
Germany: Joachim Hulsmeyer
Switzerland: Patrick Ruf
France: Nicolas Bessec
Denmark: Soren Buhl
Italy: Pierro Anzellotti
Austria: Doug Culnane
Netherlands: Berkhard Staabs

- Apologies
Freddie from Switz

2. President's Report (MR)

Currently in a stable period with a large increase in interest. The Italian fleet is now up to 8 boats, after the Europeans on Lake Garda and 2007 Worlds at Torbole is shaping up to be an excellent regatta. The French fleet is picking up again with some newcomers driving the association.

The class has received an enormous amount of publicity over the past two years and now the big question is how we now convert the worldwide interest into attendance.

3. Secretary's Report (AM)

Class coverage has continued to be very good, and there has been interest from Canada, Brazil, America, India, South Africa, and Estonia. Following the sail measurement amendment to the rules, measurement forms are now being updated to remain current. A common boat measurement form & certificate is ~~be~~ underway, along with an update of the measurement manual.

To aid those new to foiling, a 'Foiling Guide' is being written to include the key topics involved in learning to sail a hydrofoil Moth.

4. Financial Report (RV)

The class has made a profit, with the current bank balances standing at \$6000AUD. A profit of \$1680AUD has been made from 2005 Worlds DVD sales. Membership levees for the current year have been sent out and the majority have already been paid.

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5. National Associations Reports

Australia:

Currently around 50 members. Noosa, Queensland, starting on the 28 Dec will be the next Nationals - warm, no weed, no jelly fish, and 15 – 20 knots, Sail Melbourne has also expressed a desire to include the class. Sunshine, Lake Macquarie was the host of the last Nationals, and saw a turnout of 1/3 skiff, 1/3rd scow, 1/3rd foilers. More people converting to foils and it looks like there could be about 10 boats going to 2007 Worlds from Australia.

France:

Big interest in the class in France, but only a few people currently sailing and building. Five people are building hulls at the moment. Sebastien Josse has joined the class which is very positive, and is promoting the class within France. There could be 5 boats from France competing in 2007 Worlds.

Denmark:

Interest in the class is big due to the Worlds, more boats likely in Denmark. Finding boats is the tricky part. There is a boat show in August 2006 to which a boat is being taken. Trying to attract local youth sailors has been a recent aim. The Danish class is motivated, and things look promising for the future (5 / 10 boats).

Germany:

Membership remains about the same at 75 with 15- 20 active sailors. Currently seeing the integration of foilers into the active sailor fleet. There has been a bit of a change in the structure of membership, and where we sail – no longer on small lakes. Looking at a new Easter meeting and sailing with neighbouring countries. German Nationals will be held in Holland later in 2006, combined with the Dutch championships. There are a few new faces, but a stagnant number of members. Expected to have in the region of 8 / 10 boats at the 2007 Worlds.

Switzerland:

Not much change in Switzerland with 3-4 active sailors. Freddi is just finishing new foil/boat and will be at the 2007 Worlds. There have recently been two new boats into Switzerland, 1 Mistress & 1 Prowler. The association is currently frozen, with no organised races for the few current members.

Great Britain:

Everything is well in the UK. Slight change / mix of the fleet with many new sailors joining, ~ 50 members currently. Fifteen boats likely to compete at 2007 Worlds. We have several enthusiastic new younger members, better attendance at UK opens, but the boat is proving to be fun to sail, as well as race. The 2006 Nationals are to be held in Scotland shortly after the Worlds. Several well known UK sailing names are joining / have joined the class, such as Graham Vials, Paul Brotherton, Ricky Tagg, David Ellis. UK Association was a little unsure about the Bladerider appearance, feeling it would have been nice to know more about it before its release to the wider population and talk of Olympic selection.

Austria:

Full turnout at this Worlds! Olympic sailing dominates Austria's sailing scene though and it is hard to break through that to try and establish the class there.

Italy:

Two new foilers have just arrived. Italian open championships to be held next year, possibly 1 week before 2007 Worlds, possibly in Campione. Torbole have offered to run a pre-Worlds regatta. Also a possibility of a Slovenian based event near Trieste.

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Netherlands:

Interest in the class, but nobody stepping onboard yet. The open championship is to be held again after a break of 12 years. Currently 6 members – 5 sailing, and 60% of the fleet on foils.

6. Discussion on future World Championships venues

The discussion started with a number of questions posed;

What are the thoughts on a 2008 World Championships venue? Where do we go after Lake Garda in 2007 for the next 2 or 3? Should we run a Europeans in 2008? If we did what about a 3 day Europeans before the Worlds?

Japan has expressed an interest in hosting the 2009 Worlds near Tokyo, possibly around October time. The Japan Nationals are being held there this year.

With so much interest in the class it was suggested that we effectively put our Worlds out to tender and see what interest we get from clubs around the World.

Traditionally the class has operated on a 2:1 ratio of European to Southern Hemisphere venues. If we were to go to Japan in 09, we'd probably need to consider another European venue for 08.

Possible venues suggested:

Palma de Mallorca, Spain
Weymouth, UK
Quiberon, France
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Beyond Japan, a return to the Southern Hemisphere in 2010 would be considered.

7. General Business

Measurement Issues:

Sail measurement - Adam May's Excel spreadsheet for sail measurement is to be distributed for review. Boat measurement forms and certificates to be standardised around the World, or at least be available for common use, via the class website. [Action: AM, MR & DC Timescale – by the end of the year]

Official documents logo:

There was a suggestion that the foiling Moth logo shown to the right was adopted. Several other foiling Moth options were going to be investigated.



Several

In-House Certification:

The ISAF In-House Equipment Certification (IHC) Programme is a scheme whereby satisfactory equipment control is achieved and equipment certified by Manufacturers through the application of a Certification Quality Management System under licence issued by the ISAF directly or via an ISAF delegate.

IHC is a programme to enable builders to self-certify equipment - once they have met certain standards. The aim of IHC is to maintain the standards of fairness guaranteed by traditional control and certification, but reduce the time and cost of these activities. For sailors this means they can buy certified equipment, knowing it is ready to

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race. With an international system of IHC, ISAF can ensure standards and certification apply worldwide. More information about the scheme is available at: www.sailing.org/ihc

For the Moth class, in-house certification helps turn interested people into active Moth sailors quicker, smoothing the processes required after the initial boat purchase.

Action: Executive committee to look into it, and implement as soon as possible.

Direct membership to World Body.

Currently there is a minimum of 5 members required to set up a National Association. With the considerable class interest at the moment, there are many individuals that will soon have boats in countries with no current National association. It is proposed to allow direct membership to the IMCA World body in order to include these people in

If the required numbers are then met within that country to form a National association, IMCA will assist in its set-up like recently undertaken with the Italians.

Action: Executive to look into it and recommend changes to the constitution to allow this.

Website:

Doug Culnane raised the idea about allowing IMCA website access to many more people and running it like a Wiki, a type of website that allows the visitors themselves to easily add, remove and otherwise edit and change some available content. This ease of interaction and operation makes a wiki an effective tool for collaborative authoring.

Although considered a promising idea, the general consensus was to leave the main class website as an official site, and not a more living style document.

Course configuration:

The question of the style of courses used at major Moth events was raised. With a predominantly foiling fleet now, there was some desire to feature a full length run in the course to open up tactical options, and place changing possibilities. The old Olympic Triangle / sausage course or a P with windward leeward were suggestions

Action: The UK were to report back on trials of different course types at upcoming open meetings & the Nationals, Executive Committee to then decide course configuration for 2007 Worlds and amend the championships guidelines accordingly.

Moth Training DVD:

A challenge facing the class at the moment is how best to help newcomers learn the art of foiling. Rohan Veal suggested the class creates a training DVD. Some training material is already being written as Adam May is preparing a 'Foiling Guide' to be published online.

Actions – Sam Pascoe, Adam May & Rohan Veal to investigate further. Undertake cost investigations with the team that produced 'Higher & Faster' and the RYA Training dept. Review content of 'Foiling Guide' and consider possible training footage options.

Bladerider:

There was a feeling of concern within the fleet brought about by the lack of information surrounding the Bladerider project. With little prior discussion about the venture many members came across the project as a new class aimed at Olympic class selection. Concern was also voiced over many of the early press releases being slightly disrespectful to current Moth builders.

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The feeling of many was that although currently measuring as a Moth, the primary business plan is to produce a new Olympic class, which could evolve into being a competitor to the Moth. Is this an animal within the class? With considerable backing KA are now a fair sized company obviously interested in turnover and profit and the corporate venture.

On the other hand with so much interest in the class, having another builder could be of great benefit to the class, helping to increase class numbers, as long as it remains as a Moth under the class rules.

KA's Andrew McDougall was not present at the AGM so a meeting with him to present information on the Bladerider project was organised for during the Worlds, and it was requested by the floor that the executive committee and all national presidents formulate a policy, on the behalf of the moth class regarding future sponsorship of events.

Action – Executive Committee to formulate sponsorship guidelines for future class events

Footnote: Subsequent to the AGM, KA's Andrew McDougall presented his thoughts to the members present at the Worlds on the Bladerider, his intentions and its' effect on the moth class.

He stated that his personal intention was to bring the moth foiler to the masses, that he had a long association with the class stretching back more than 20 years and did not personally want to see the class suffer in any way. While he agreed part of KA's intention was to get a foiling Moth into the Olympic Games, he did not believe it would greatly affect the Moth class as the class will continue to evolve and become faster overtime, while an Olympic Class would be essentially stagnant in its design. He agreed that it would be a significant struggle to obtain Olympic class status and that it was in KA's interest to keep the Bladerider, 'Moth class legal'.

Election:

With no opposing nominations the following persons were duly elected.

President – Mark Robinson

Secretary – Adam May

Treasurer – Rohan Veal

Executive Committee – Andreas(GER), Adam(GBR), Rohan(AUS), Mark(SIN), Simon Payne(GBR)