



INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS ASSOCIATION

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
Karatsu, Japan – 18 July 2015

MINUTES

Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting (GAM) of the International 420 Class Association held at 1730 hours on 18 July 2015 at Saga Prefecture Yacht Harbour, Karatsu, Japan.

The GAM started at 1735 hours.

PRESENT:	Members Eligible to Vote:
	Australia Tim Grogan
	Brazil Carla Spletstösser
	Bulgaria Stanislav Kassarov
	France Pierrick Pedron
	Germany Reinhold Opalka
	Great Britain Sue Kalderon
	Greece Andreas Papadopoulos
	India Gautama Dutta
	Israel Nino Shmueli
	Italy Fulvia Ercoli
	Japan Yumiko Shige
	New Zealand Deborah Haslett
	Portugal Stanislav Kassarov (<i>proxy</i>)
	Spain Ignacio Zaluide
	Turkey Munifcan Cinay
	USA Larry Law

Executive Committee (not otherwise representing a Member):

Catherine Dodds	Treasurer
Dimitris Dimou	Technical Committee Chairman

In Attendance: Luissa Smith, Class Communications

Apologies: Joaquim Malhão Class Development

Absent: *Members Eligible to vote* – AUT, CHI, CZE, FIN, HKG, IRL, KOR, MYA, NED, POL, RUS, SLO, SUI

WELCOME

In opening the General Assembly meeting, Nino Shmueli, International 420 Class President welcomed delegates and extended thanks to Yumiko Shige and her team for organizing and hosting the 2015 420 World Championships. The President acknowledged the unique and fantastic opportunity the 420 World Championships offers for teams from around the world to experience Japanese culture and hospitality.

At the start of the meeting, the members entitled to vote were confirmed as 14, which constituted a valid quorum.

1. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING

Decision

On a proposal by India, seconded by the USA, Nino Shmueli was elected as Chairman of the meeting (*Vote: 12 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstain – Germany and Israel*).

2. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

The report from the President was circulated prior to the meeting, with the following key points also highlighted.

National Flags on Sails - noted that national flags on mainsails were provided by the International 420 Class Association for the 2015 420 World Championships, but from 2016 they will be a mandatory requirement to be supplied by all teams competing at 420 Class Championships. The 420 Class is the first junior class to take this step.

Youth Class – emphasized the importance of being selected as equipment for the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship, as well as the success of the partnership in hosting a combined Junior European Championships with the 420 Class. Noted that the venue for the 2016 Junior European Championships would be announced soon.

Nautivela 420s – noted the 420s which went missing from a container in Italy, and that the plaque numbers for each boat are known, so it will be possible to identify the boats if they are used at events.

Pathway – supporting the key role of the 420 Class as the pathway class between the Optimist and Olympic Sailing, recognition was given to the Japan 420 Class Association, Japan Sailing and Yumiko Shige who have supported the provision of 300 420s in Japan.

3. REPORT ON THE CLASS DEVELOPMENT 2014-2015

The President, on behalf of Joaquim Malhão, 420 Class Development, expressed his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting or circulate development reports. The President advised that within the next month a report would be circulated to National Class Associations detailing the development activities undertaken in 2014 and 2015.

The primary development initiatives were noted as the launch of the e-Book and the partnership with ISAF to financially support the provision of a 420 coaching expert to the Emerging Nations Clinics in Mozambique, Hungary and Malaysia.

The future 420 Coaches' Clinic to be held in Italy was also noted, with more information to be published once details are finalized.

The launch of the inaugural 420 Team Racing Worlds in Italy, 9-12 September 2015 was also noted. The intention is to fix the dates for the event year on year, so it can become an established fixture on the calendar.

4. CLASS DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2016

This item was covered under Item 3 above.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The report from Dimitris Dimou, Chairman of the Technical Committee was circulated prior to the meeting, with the following key points also highlighted.

Measurers – noted the plan to increase the number of measurers in Europe by 1 or 2, with a focus on also supporting a 420 measurer for Asia. Measurers for Oceania and North America are also being planned.

Sail Numbers - noted the use of the digital or square figure-8 style numbers on sails which must stop from 1 January 2016. From that date, numbers on sails must all comply with the typeface requirements specified in the ISAF RRS.

6. PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Catherine Dodds, 420 Class Treasurer, presented the accounts to the year end 2014, noting the following:

Sail Stickers - income is much higher than expenditure. Noted that sail sticker income is ring-fenced for development. Development expenditure is lower for 2014, but over the coming years expenditure is forecast to increase and the figures should have balanced out.

Boat Plaques - noted that the significant expenditure is the transfer of a percentage of the plaque fee to ISAF as a royalty.

Website - noted the high expenditure to set up the new Class website and Championship websites. Noted that website advertising could not be implemented until the website was fully functioning, and income in this area will increase in the future.

420 Championships - 2014 made a reasonable profit to help cover class costs.

Technical - expenditure was low in 2014, although likely to rise in 2015. Also noted that many of the technical costs for builder inspections are shared with the 470 Class.

Sponsorship - noted e-Book sponsored by major builders. Builders have also agreed to pay a fee of EUR30 on top of each boat plaque to help contribute to the cost of class communications and PR, and in return will receive advertising in the e-Book.

Interest and Bank charges - noted high level of income in 2014, but not forecast to be the same in future.

Accounts - noted different account holdings, so as spread risk across different accounts.

In response to a question from the Great Britain representative regarding the financial reserves, the President advised that the policy of the Class is to hold sufficient reserves in order to be able to run the International 420 Class Association for three years, if for any reason income streams cease.

Fulvia Ercoli, 420 Class Auditor, reported that she had checked the accounts and confirmed they are in order.

Decision

The 2014 accounts were unanimously approved.

7. ELECTION OF AUDITOR FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

Decision

Fulvia Ercoli was unanimously appointed as the Auditor for the next financial year.

8. APPROVAL OF NEXT YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The President reported that at the 2014 General Assembly Meeting it was proposed that the future annual fees would be EUR100 for five years, which would be implemented from 2016 onwards.

The Treasure advised that invoices would be sent out to co-ordinate all subscription fees from 2016, so nations are all paying a set amount. Any nations joining during the five-year time frame, or who paid in advance, will be invoiced accordingly

Decision

It was unanimously agreed that with effect from 1 January 2016, the National Class Association subscription fee will be EUR100 for five years as a set fee, payable five years in advance.

9. PROPOSALS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9.1.1. Class Rule Changes

The Chairman of the Technical Committee presented the proposed class rule changes which he noted would be effective in January 2016.

Proposal 1 – Class Rules Part II Introduction

Noted this change would enforce class rules from measurement, whereas at the moment Class Rules apply whilst racing. Noted that this change will only apply if stated in the Notice of Race.

Decision

The following change to Class Rules Part II Introduction was unanimously approved:

“The crew and the boat shall comply with the rules in Part II when racing. The Notice of Race may specify that compliance shall be in effect from the moment equipment is presented for inspection. Measurement to check conformity with rules of Section C is not part of equipment certification measurement. Measurement shall be carried out in accordance with the current version of ERS except where varied in this Part.”

Proposal 2 – Class Rule C.3.2

Noted this is mainly a clarification to add a new sentence to allow timing devices which have no other function/capability.

Decision

The following change to Class Rule C.3.2 was unanimously approved:

Renumber existing C.3.2 to C.3.2 (1) and then add new C.3.2 (2) “Electronic or mechanical timing devices which don’t have any other function / capability. No other electrical or electronic device shall be carried on board.”

Proposal 3 – Class Rule C.10.3.1(e)

Noted that the flags being used for the 2015 420 World Championships are intentionally produced to the same size as the flags on 470 sails. The system is to use licensed suppliers and there are currently seven suppliers who use the same graphic files so all flags look the same and have the same durability. These manufacturers are checked and authorized. By including the 420 Class, the intention is for costs to be reduced as the manufacturers will be producing more flags. Noted that EUR35 is the current price for a set of flags.

The representative from the USA noted that graphics files should be produced for non-symmetrical flags, so there are specific port and starboard stickers. The Chairman of the Technical Committee confirmed he will follow up on this issue with ISAF.

Decision

The following new Class Rule C.10.3.1(e) was unanimously approved:

When required by a Notice of Race, a skipper's national flag, nominal size 740 x 443 mm, shall be applied to each side of the mainsail, placed as shown in the Figure “Mainsail Flag Location”, so that the shortest distance of the upper aft corner of each flag is between 50 and 100 mm from the leech and the lower edge between 50 and 100 mm above the lowermost batten pocket. The flags shall be made by an ICA-approved manufacturer as listed at: <http://www.sailing.org/classesandequipment/l420.php>

10. PROPOSALS FROM THE MEMBERS

No proposals were received from members.

11. FUTURE 420 CHAMPIONSHIPS

To agree the venues of the 2017 International 420 Class World and Continental Championships, and confirm the venues and dates for the 2016 World and Continental Championships, as published at www.420sailing.org.

11.1 2016 Championships

(a) 2016 420 World Championships – San Remo, Italy, 8-15 July

Fernando Sesto advised that the dates have been moved earlier because of the 2016 Olympic Games. It was noted there would be two national

events in Italy in the build-up to the Worlds which would be open to all teams.

(b) 2016 420 Junior European Championships

The President reported that he anticipated being able to announce the venue and dates within the next two weeks.

11.2 2017 Championships

It was noted that the 2017 420 Junior European Championships will be held in Lake Garda, Italy, as already confirmed by the International 470 Class Association.

(a) 2017 420 World Championships

Bid presentations were received from:

Fremantle, Australia

Bourgas, Bulgaria

The President reminded delegates that if the 420 World Championships are held in the Southern Hemisphere, there will be an additional event that year in Europe, being an Open European Championships.

Decision

On vote of 7 in favour of Australia, 6 in favour of Bulgaria and 2 abstentions (Portugal and Israel), Fremantle, Australia was confirmed as the venue for the 2017 420 World Championships.

(b) 2018 420 World Championships

Looking ahead to the 2018 420 World Championships, Larry Law, President of the USA 420 Class Association, notified the meeting of the USA's intent to bid and gave a short presentation from the venue in Newport, Rhode Island.

It was noted that the formal bid application process to host the 2018 420 World Championships will be open in 2016.

12. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Technical Committee took over the chairmanship of the meeting for this item. The members noted that the President and Vice-President are due for election in odd years, with nominations required to be submitted three months prior to the General Assembly meeting, so by 18 April 2015.

Nominations had been received for the following candidates, which were noted as also supported by the 420 Executive Committee:

President: Nino Shmueli – nomination received from Israel Yachting Association dated 8 April 2015

Vice-President: Jose Massapina – nomination received from Federação Portuguesa de Vela dated 13 April 2015

Decision

The nominations were approved:

President – Nino Shmueli on a vote of 14 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain (Israel)

Vice-President – Jose Massapina on a vote of 14 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain (Portugal)

Confirming this would be his last term, the President thanked members for their trust and emphasized the need to encourage a new generation to be involved and welcomed new faces.

13. ELECTION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A proposal letter from the Spanish 420 Class Association dated 8 April 2015 nominating Teresa Rios Sanchez to the 420 Technical Committee was received.

Decision

Teresa Rios Sanchez was unanimously approved as a member of the 420 Technical Committee.

The President noted there is one vacant seat in the Technical Committee, due to a resignation, so nominations are invited for 2016.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) 420 Asian Championship

Mr Gautama Dutta, representing India, expressed India's intention to host a 420 Asian Championship. He reported that there is an existing fleet of 30-40 boats and noted that the Indian Navy will purchase new boats. He noted that the removal of the 420 Class from future Asian Games will impact funding for the Class and it is important that there is a major Continental Championship going forwards.

Mr Dutta was seeking the support of the 420 General Assembly to the concept, explaining that he would then submit a formal presentation. Dates are anticipated to be July or December 2016.

Decision

The holding of a 420 Asian Championship was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the General Assembly meeting was closed at 1923 hours.