

**INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REAL CLUB NAUTICO DE GRAN CANARIA  
WEDNESDAY 2 AUGUST 2006

*Attendance list*

ARG Jose TEDIN  
BRA Sylvia ADLER P. DUARTE  
ESP Jose MALLÉN  
FRA Christian BERHAULT  
GBR Nigel ELLIS  
GER Norbert SCHRADER  
GRE Themis LEMBOSOPOULOS  
HKG non voting  
HUN Benidict KOVAC  
IRL Lucielle BRADFIELD  
ITA Luciano CROCETTI  
ISR Avanhm FISHER  
NZL Hannah SARGISSON  
POR Joao LEONARDO DE JESUS  
SWE Magnus HOLMGREN  
TUR Naci KURIS  
USA Larry LAW

AUS and SUI (non voting) were at the championship but did not send a representative  
*FIJ were at the championship but are not class members*

*Executive committee*

President Nino SHUMELI  
Vice President José MASSAPINA  
General Secretary Gail NUTTALL  
Treasurer Catherine DODDS

Action chairman Dimitris DIMOU  
Technical Committee

The Class was welcomed to the club by Matias Gomez, of Real Club Nautico de Gran Canaria.

The 420 Class President Nino Shmueli thanked him for hosting the meeting and our championships. The facilities and welcome have been extremely good.

The numbers of national 420 class representatives in the room were agreed. From 24 paid up member nations, 17 were present at the championship with 16 attending the meeting. It was agreed that for voting purposes of the meeting, the number was 16 (provided all voted and were in the room at the time a vote was taken).

The meeting was then opened formally.

**1. Election of Chairman of the meeting**

The President, Nino Shmueli asked for proposals for chairman of the meeting

GBR proposed that Nino Shmueli (NS) be chairman. It was put to the vote  
AGREED

## **2 Report from the President**

NS gave his report as written and circulated. During this report he made the proposal for the retiring General Secretary, Gail NUTTALL(GN) to be made an Officer of Honour of the class.

This was agreed. A presentation was made and grateful thanks given by GN.

NS continued with his report, which is attached to these minutes.

## **3 Report of the Class Development**

José MASSAPINA (JM) Vice President who is responsible for class development, gave his report as written and circulated. This was well received, especially the Coaching for Coaches seminar, held in 2006 in Istanbul. *Another is planned for Europe in early 2007 and one is also planned in South America.* The USA representative would like to see such a seminar in North America, if he can raise the numbers. JM said that he is willing to try to set up seminars, if requested. His report was accepted and is attached to these minutes.

## **4 Technical Committee**

Dimitris DIMOU (DD), Acting Chairman of the Technical Committee for the last year, gave his report, which was circulated.

Norbert SCHRADER, GER, asked about the location of ISAF International 420 measurers around the world. GER would like to have more in north Europe. DD explained that an International measurer does not have a great deal of work, so we need to limit appointments so that they can have sufficient work to keep up to date.

Nigel ELLIS, GBR, asked a question about late rule changes, such as the forestay. DD said this had been discussed in Brest so NCAs should have known, but due to ISAF taking so long, the final decision was made so close to the World Championship.

NS said we will try not to have changes that come out late, like this one again

Jose MALLEN, ESP, queried quality of sail measurement and lack of correct markings on new sails. DD stated that with a list of measurers we are able to identify who has measured any piece of equipment.

His report was accepted and is attached to these minutes.

## **5 Information from ISAF**

NS told the meeting that he has nothing more to report that has not been included in his report. He spoke again about how the decision for the venue of the 2007 ISAF Youths came about and how the choice of boat had been made.

For 2009, BRA, and 2010, possibly TUR, we are working for the 420 to again be the double handed discipline.

## **6 Presentation and Acceptance of Class Accounts**

Catherine DODDS (CD) Treasurer, presented the accounts, which were circulated. CD gave a clear explanation including the separated sail button fund, established since 2004.

We have seen a continual increase in the numbers to 27, in 2005, of national 420 class associations paying our annual fee.

Web site costs will reduce as 2 volunteers put on most of the information and news. Championship income is growing reflecting the high entry levels.

There were no questions from the meeting.

The appointed Auditor from Spain, Joaquim MALHAO confirmed that the accounts were in order.

The accounts were accepted and are attached to these minutes.

### **7 Election of Auditor for the next financial year 2007**

The 2007 General Assembly will be at the Open European Championship Turkey and Naci KURIS offered to take on this task.

This was agreed

Vote 14 for, 2 Abstentions

### **8 Approval of next years subscription fee**

NS explained why the fee is at this low level. It helps monitor our active members of our class. It also tracks voting members and nations who can bid for our championship.

NS proposed that the fee remain at €15.00

This was agreed

Vote 16 for

### **9 To agree the venue for future championships**

2007 The championships for this year have been approved. The hosting nations made short presentations.

### **Worlds and Ladies Championship, Takapuna Boating Club**

#### **New Zealand, 31.Dec. 06 – 9. Jan 2007**

Grant Cunningham, Takapuna Boating Club told the meeting how much they are looking forward to hosting this event. President Ralph Roberts, Hannah Sargisson and Matt Brown, 420 coach, from the club reinforced this.

The 420 Class is growing in NZL. Planning for the event is well underway.

Competing nations were informed on various matters. It is important that all remember that only treated timber must be used as support framework in the containers as there is a very strict agricultural policy for timber, etc. being shipped into NZL. Complete carnet also necessary, then boats will be released from ports quickly.

Packs were handed out with DVD. Notice of Race is on the website, with full details of accommodation and the club, etc. Grant will be available for the rest of the week to answer questions.

### **Junior European Championship , Medemblick, combined with junior 470**

#### **Holland, 8 to 16 August 2007**

A DVD was played promoting the 420 sailing in Holland and how they are looking forward to this event. Representatives of the host club and nation will be at the 2006 Junior European Championship in Tavira.

### **European Championship Istanbul**

#### **Turkey 24 July – 2 August 2007**

NS emphasised that this is Open for all nations but only European teams can take the title.

Naci Kuris, TUR, made a presentation about transport to the venue. There will be a warm welcome for all. The host club held the Coaching for Coaches seminar earlier in 2006.

All host nations and clubs were thanked for their presentations and the class hopes that all member nations will do their best to support the championships.

## **2008**

### **Worlds and Ladies Worlds**

The only candidate is for this championship is Athens, Greece. A presentation, with DVD, was given by Themis Lembosopoulos. The host club would be the Yacht Club of Greece, hosts of the 2003 Junior European Championship. The sailing area is as the 2004 Olympics. The marina will be the Federation marina with plenty of space for boat parking. Pireaus, Athens, has a good variety of accommodation and transport is generally easy, with ferries from Italy.

This proposal was put to the meeting.

Agreed

Vote 16 for.

Greece will host the 2008 World and Ladies Championships

### **Junior European Championship**

Bids for this event have been received from Hungary and Croatia.

Both gave presentations.

#### **Croatia**

Zadar, Croatia showed a DVD indicating plenty of boat and car park, measurement and administration areas with special emphasise on exciting ceremonies. They have a number of experienced race officials. Transport to Croatia and Zadar is now very good, with new fast roads, ferries and an airport close by.

Tourist information and details of the town can be found at [www.zadar.hr](http://www.zadar.hr)

JM asked about development of 420 in Croatia since the 2004 event. The coach said they have increased but still not as many as they would hope for. The hosting of this event will help to promote the class further.

#### **Hungary**

Lake Balaton, Hungary. Benedik Kovak (BK) gave a presentation with a DVD. He explained that many events are organised on Lake Balaton, in many classes. He emphasised that hosting this event would greatly help the development of the 420 class in Hungary. There is a large area for boat and car parking and all kinds of accommodation. The 470 class held a European Championship in 2005.

ISR asked about the wind strengths. BK replied that there can be all forces of wind but most winds are medium strength.

A vote was taken to select which venue will host the 2008 Junior European Championship

Croatia 9

Hungary 4

Abstention 3

It was agreed that Croatia will host this championship

## **2009 Championships**

Presentations for 2009 were for information only as a formal vote will be taken at the General Assembly next year, 2007.

**Italy**, Fraglia Vela Riva club, gave a presentation. This club is situated towards the north end of Lake Garda. There is always a good wind on the lake. The club regularly hosts big regattas, including Olympic classes. The first 420 Team Racing Championship in 2005 was sailed here and will do so again in 2006. A pack was available to all delegates.

**Argentina**. The secretary of 420 class requested the championships for Buenos Aires January 09. This would be very important for class development both in Argentina and the whole of South America. Several world championships and races have been held here. In 2007, a full presentation will be made.

GBR suggested that if the ISAF World Youth Championships are to be held in Brazil in 2009, it be sensible to have our championship in South America.

Both countries will present full details next year at the General Assembly during the European Championship in Istanbul.

### **10 Election of Members of the Executive Committee**

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the General Secretary and Treasurer are due for election in even years.

#### **Treasurer**

Our current treasurer, Catherine Dodds is willing to remain in her post.

GBR has correctly proposed her and there being no other nominations this was put to the vote.

Vote 16 for.

NS confirmed her duly elected and thanked her for all the hard work she is doing for the class. The amount of work has increased in recent years through the introduction of sail buttons, builders plaques and the collection of championship entry fees direct by the class. Catherine has also put the class accounts into good order, so all income and expenditure is clearly set out.

#### **Secretary**

Gail Nuttall is retiring after 12 years in this post.

Two proposals have been correctly received, Pedro Rodrigues (POR) and Michael Shwarzer (GER). Their CVs have been circulated. Both are known to the class and the Executive Committee.

Michael was unable to be in attendance. Norbert SCHRADER spoke about Michael Pedro, who was present, gave a short presentation. He then left the room.

A vote was taken

Michael S For 1

Pedro R For 14

Abstention 1

Pedro was duly elected

NS welcomed him to the Executive Committee. A letter of regret, but also thanking Michael for his interest, will be sent.

### **11 Election of Members of the Technical Committee**

Dimtris Dimou (GRE) has been correctly proposed for Chairman of Committee. This post has been vacant for the past year. There being no other nominations, this was put to the vote.

Vote 16 for.

DD was duly elected.

Jorg-Hendrick Lorenz (GER) has been correctly proposed as a member of the Technical Committee. The Articles of Association allow for up to 5 members, currently there are two.

There being no other nominations, this was put to the vote.

Vote 16 for.

Jorg was duly elected

Committee will now consist of Dimitris Dimou (GRE), Barry Johnson (AUS) and Jorg-Hendrick Lorenz (GER).

### **12 Proposals from the Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee submitted two proposals, correctly submitted with the agenda. These were explained to the representatives by DD

Proposal 1

Rule D.4.2.2

NZL expressed concern that this rule could bring in windward sheeting of the main but DD explained that as the 420 is not a small 470, this change to the wording will be beneficial for the sailors.

DD said that final wording will be made by ISAF but the spirit and principle will remain.

A vote was taken

Vote 16 for

DD and the Technical committee will prepare the necessary submission for ISAF.

Rule D.4.2.1

In this instance DD needs the authorisation to discuss this further with ISAF. JHL asked if builders had been consulted but DD assured him that it makes no change for them.

A vote was taken

Vote 14 for.

Abstentions 2

DD went on to explain to the national representatives about ISAF in house certification proposals, (also set out in the Executive proposals) which will be introduced. ISAF suggest that the class adopt it for spars and sails. This will need some adjustments to our rules but should greatly help our sailors. It would be a strict and carefully controlled system, but has still to be implemented.

The Technical Committee informed the meeting that they will be working towards this implementation.

Foils, in due course, would also be included in this system. The process should be paper free!

Roberto Authier (ARG) expressed concern about illegal equipment on the market, with fake certification. Who and how will interpretations be made to maintain consistency and standards?

DD replied that ISAF have been writing standard equipment rules and measurement rules to ensure standard procedures and that special auditing systems, with very regular checks, will be made on the equipment builders. ISAF will set up an audit system and pilot schemes.

The Technical Committee requested the agreement of the meeting to continue with this work.

A vote was taken

Vote 11 for.

Against 1

Abstention 4

DD then explained further matters relating to sail measurement that need attention. These items were also noted on the Executive Committee proposals.

Spinnaker foot and Jib foot

Due to the lack of exact measurements in these areas, some exploitation of the rules is being seen. In order to prevent this, the TC wish to make a study of the current spinnakers and jibs to find the fair measurement limitations to ensure all sails remain within the spirit of the current rules. They hope to do this work before the end of September 2006. Any agreed new measurements would not be implemented before 1 March 2007. All NCAs, sail and spar builders would be duly notified according to ISAF procedures.

A vote was taken.

Vote 16 for.

DD thanked the meeting for their help.

### **13 Proposals from members**

None have been received.

NS asked if any representatives had any further comments to add to the meeting. There were none.

NS thanked all for attending and being so supportive of the work of the Executive and Technical Committees and invited everyone to enjoy the canapes very kindly provided by our hosts, together with some wine from Hungary.

The meeting closed at 21.15

## Attachment 1

# 2006 Technical Committee Report

During the past year the main task of the Technical Committee was the introduction of a new version of the class rules with the amendments approved during the 2005 GA in Brest and with a re-arrangement of the sections to follow more closely the ISAF standard format. The latter was an ISAF request, as there were a lot of deviations from the standard. Other tasks included the issuing of the new hull templates to our builders, the creation of a hull measurement guide, the creation of a measurers database and the organizing of the first measurement clinic for new International Measurers of the Class.

## CLASS RULES

The new edition of the class rules was finally approved by the ISAF in June 2006. A new version of the Hull measurement form is also approved by ISAF, to reflect the re-numbering of certain rules and to accommodate the changes in the hull measurement system, and it will be posted on the ISAF website soon. A clarification guide was posted on the class website in July 2006, offering explanations to the major changes in the new version of the class rules and suggestions for class legal solutions to problems like the spar stoppers. The building specification will be also available on the ISAF website soon for free downloading.

The old version of the rules had a lot of deviations from the ISAF standard class rules and unfortunately it is now clear to us that our rules are missing some small but important details like the definition of the sail numbers and some safety features like a device to secure the mainsail clew if the outhaul rope breaks. A few errors have been identified as well, and they will be corrected in the next version of the class rules. The target of the technical committee is to have a new version approved by ISAF for application in the 2007 Worlds in New Zealand, incorporating any changes approved by the 2006 GA. This should happen no later than October 2006.

## HULL TEMPLATES

The new set of templates, including all 10 measurement stations instead of the old set of 3, is now finally in production and the first sets have been shipped to some of our class builders. It took almost a year to organize this with the ISAF, and the class has managed to get a substantial discount from the manufacturer for the first batch of template sets. Because of the delays in production and delivery of the templates, the application date of the new hull measurement system has been moved to January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. However, for new builders the new system is already effective. Our builders must work closely with the Technical Committee to resolve any issues that may arise, and it is absolutely necessary to measure their current designs with the new system as soon as possible. For that purpose, a hull measurement guide has been prepared by the Class (December 2005) to assist the measurers who do the



certification control of the boats under the new system. A new document explaining the procedure that a prospective class builder has to follow is now available (April 2006).

The rudder plan is also available in electronic form for those who need to make a template, and guidance for making a centreboard template under the new measurement system can be provided to those who request it.

#### OFFICIAL MEASURERS

In February 2006 an official letter was circulated to all National 420 Class Associations and the relevant National Authorities, requesting information about their official measurers, the technical committees and their training systems. This information must be presented to ISAF, and also will be used by the class to investigate cases of equipment certified by non-authorized measurers. However, the main purpose of the measurers' database is to give the class the opportunity to provide information and training to our class measurers worldwide, and to assist sailors with rule compliance. So far, we have received replies from 12 countries, and we hope to receive more in the near future. National class associations need to understand that they have to update this information regularly, at least when there are changes. People who are requesting technical information from the class are advised to go through their national technical committee and not individually.

#### INTERNATIONAL MEASURERS

Currently, there are only two active International Measurers for our class, with a third close to retiring. For that reason, the class organized a measurer's clinic during the 2006 World Championship. In this way, we hope to have two more IMs in North and South America, and two more in Europe in 2007. The increase of the number of IMs will assist the class with the mould approval of new builders and also in the equipment inspection at major events. The quality of measurement will also reach high levels, as they are all given the same training and they will apply the rules in the same way everywhere. In the future, we may need to train more IMs, especially in Asia/Oceania.

Finally, we will try to use the full potential of the class website to create mailing lists for notifications about technical matters, including rule interpretations, the issue of new documents etc. The class Technical committee wishes to cooperate with all national class associations in matters such as the introduction of standard measurer stamps and the issuing of proper boat certificates. All technical representatives are encouraged to contact us whenever they have a question or request.

Dimitris Dimou  
Acting Chairman of the  
Int. 420 Class Technical Committee