



INTERNATIONAL 420 CLASS ASSOCIATION

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Istanbul – 29 July 2007**

MINUTES

Present:

GRE Themis LEBESSOPOULOS

ARG Genaro MAGGI

TUR Naci KURIS

BEL Jan PEETERS

ITA Luciano CROCETTI

CRO Goran NOVAKOVIC

IRL Lucille BRADFIELD

ISR Dekel DANIEL

FRA Cédric MARY

BRA Genaro MAGGI

POR Dekel DANIEL

GER Norbert SCHRADER

NZL Gregor BOWATER (non voting)

SUI Meret Vogt (non voting)

SUI Evelyne Caron (non voting)

Executive Committee

President: Nino SHMUELI

Vice President: José MASSAPINA

General Secretary: Pedro RODRIGUES

Treasurer: Catherine DODDS

Chairman Technical Committee: Dimitris DIMOU

The 420 Class President Nino Shmueli thanked the Istanbul Yelken Kulubu and the Turkish Sailing Federation 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 was agreed. From 28 paid up member nations, 15 were present at the championship with 12 attending the meeting. It was agreed that for voting purposes of the meeting, the number was 12 (provided all voted and were in the room at the time a vote was taken).

The meeting was then opened formally.

1. Election of the Chairman of the meeting;

The President, Nino Shmueli asked for proposals for chairman of the meeting. TUR proposed that Nino Shmueli (NS) be chairman. It was put to the vote:
AGREED **Unanimously**

2. Report of the President, (as circulated before the meeting . Appendix A);

NS gave his report as written and circulated. During this report he thanked his colleagues from the Executive Committee for their support and dedication. NS continued with his report, which was accepted and is attached to these minutes.

3. Report Class Development Plan 2006-7, (as circulated before the meeting);

NS propose that this point be presented together with the Agenda Item 11 (Class Development Plan 2007-8. AGREED

José MASSAPINA (JM) Vice President who is responsible for class development, gave his report as written and circulated.

JM said that he is willing to try to set up coaches seminars (South and North America).

His report was accepted and is attached to these minutes Appendix B).

JM explain the importance of having the junior European combined events with the 470 class.

A harmonization plan 420/470 was done for the next events taking the experience from the 2006 Junior Europeans combined event, held in Tavira last year.

NS also asked JM to add Bulgaria to his report as they have bought 6 brand new boats last year.

JM referred how important is to see some coaches participating in our General Assemblies.

Finally, JM asked to the national members of the class to send any ideas to the EC.

4. Report of the Chairman of the Technical Committee, (as circulated before the meeting)

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

The TC's intention is to "freeze" the class rules (no changes) and stabilize them for the sailors and builders.

ITA asked if it's possible to translate the certificate on a separate document. The answer was that it is possible to translate in the same page or in a separate one but only if all the items are included.

It was explained that the boat builders are not able to buy any new plaques before their moulds are approved using the new measurement system; any existing boats in stock can be sold without problems if measured before July 1st 2007 and these boats will continue to be class-legal indefinitely.

BEL asked what the TC can do about the foils that are out of the limits. The answer was that the TC can only inform the builders about the rules.

DD also asked if the members have some contacts for foil builders, to send them to the class and advised to check foils and all equipment at home before coming to the events.

The Technical Committee Chairman's report was accepted and is attached (Appendix C) to these minutes.

5. Presentation and acceptance of the annual accounts;

Catherine DODDS (CD) Treasurer, presented the accounts, which were circulated, and thanked Naci KURIS from Turkey for auditing the accounts.

CD gave a clear explanation, including the separated sail button fund, established since 2004.

We have seen a continual increase in the numbers to 28, in 2006, of national 420 class associations paying our annual fee.

Web site costs have been reduced as 2 volunteers put on most of the information and news.

CD thanked Tony Mapplebeck for his help on the web site.

There is a discrepancy in championship fees as this includes fees for the 2007 Worlds, paid in December 2006, but no costs were paid out until 2007.

There were no questions from the meeting.

The appointed Auditor from Turkey, Naci KURIS confirmed that the accounts were in order.

The accounts were accepted: ***Unanimously***

Web Site: Additional agenda Item

CD reported on the current status of the web site. She reported the development of an active site, with regularly changing news items. She asked countries to nominate a person to send notices, news and other materials to the I420CA.

Tony Mapplebeck expanded on Catherine Dodds' comments on the development of the website.

News coverage had grown over the year, with more regattas being listed and an increasing availability of photographs, which are better than words in telling a story.

The website is watched by many policy-making bodies, particularly the national sailing federations and ISAF; it presents the depth and breadth of the Class as the youth double-hander. At the same time, it is a good advertisement to individuals and groups showing that the Class is both fun and competitive.

Several sailors, as well as other supporters, had volunteered to help as local "correspondents" so that interest and coverage for some countries (e.g. Argentina, Israel, Switzerland, Austria, South Africa) had increased alongside the countries with bigger 420 fleets. Tony wanted to encourage NCAs to support their younger members to contribute in this way; he felt that this increased interest and participation, but also helped to encourage NCAs to strengthen their own websites. Photographs are really important to both the sailors and their supporters and to marketing and selling the Class. There had been a growth in the number of photos, and a new Photo Gallery has been introduced to upload larger numbers for events, alongside the Photo News and Rolling Photos.

A facility has been developed under the "Information" section on the Menu so that "stories" can be presented in pictures and words. "420 goes Africa" tells the story over the last two years of how a club initiative in South Africa has led to the establishment of a new builder and a new 420 Class there. This is dynamic, and Tony would like to collaborate with other countries or sailors to develop the approach with other "stories". The RSA Class had found this initiative very helpful with all their sponsors and supporters and have welcomed recognition by the International Class as a celebration of their pioneering work.

NS thanked to Catherine Dodds and Tony Mapplebeck.

6. Election of Auditor for the next financial year;

ITA Luciano CROCETTI offered to do this task.

This was agreed.

In Favour – 11

Against – 0

Abstentions – 1

7. Approval of next years subscription fees;

NS explained why the fee is at this low level. It helps monitor the active member countries 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.

In Favour – 12

Against – 0
Abstentions - 0

8. To agree the venue of the International 420 Class World and Continental Championships 2 years ahead, and confirm the venues and dates for these championships 1 year ahead (as publish in www.420sailing.org)

2008 The championships for this year have been approved. The hosting nations made short presentations.

Worlds and Ladies Championship, Athens, Greece

Junior European Championship, Zadar, Croatia, combined with Junior 470

2009 Worlds and Ladies Worlds

Presentations made by the BRA, ARG and ITA (Lake Garda).

Voting: BRA – 0

ARG – 4

ITA – 8 approved.

Junior European Championship

BEL withdraw it's candidature. ESP and POL did not present.

HUN presented their proposal, for an event combined with the 470 Junior Europeans.

Voting in HUN:

In Favour – 12

Against – 0

Abstentions - 0

2010 ARG asked for their candidature to be added.

EUROPA CUP

A proposal was made by FRA that a Europa Cup should be created, which would include most of the major European events. The meeting was strongly in favour of this proposal.

The EC should present a final proposal to the GA in 2008.

9. Election of the President and Vice President of the Executive Committee;

At this point CD agreed to take over the chair of the meeting.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the President and Vice-President are due for election in odd-numbered years.

President

Our current President, Nino SHMUELI was willing to remain in his post. ISR has correctly proposed him and there being no other nominations this was put to the vote.

In Favour – 10

Against – 0

Abstentions – 1

Vice President

Our current Vice President, José Massapina was willing to remain in his post. POR has correctly proposed him and there being no other nominations this was put to the vote.

In Favour – 11

Against – 0

Abstentions - 1

10. Election of the Technical Committee members;*

Proposal letter dated 15th May 2007 was received from the Australian International 420 Class Association for Barry Johnson to continue as member.

A Proposal letter dated 12th May 2007 was been received from the Argentina 420 Class Association for Alexander Finsterbusch for the position as member.

A Proposal letter dated 16th May 2007 was received from the Swedish 420 Class Association for STEFAN RYOTT for the position as member.

CD explained that these last two letters were entered late, as defined in 6.2 of the Articles, however the Technical Committee fully supports these proposals.

Voting to accept the proposals:

In Favour – 11

Against – 0

Abstentions – 1

Voting:

Barry JOHNSON

Favour – 11

Against – 0

Absences – 1

Alexander FINSTERBUSCH

In Favour – 12

Against – 0

Abstentions – 0

Stefan RYOTT
In Favour – 12
Against – 0
Abstentions – 0

11. Class Development Plan 2007-8, – José Massapina;

See Item 3 above.

12. Approval of Rules changes proposals;

1) Rule G.3.2.4 (Mainsail)

Add "window" to the list of permitted items in the mainsail.

DD explained that this proposal was submitted by the Germany 420 Class Association. However they didn't attend the GA.

DD also explained that if the sailor is tall, this change can be helpful, in other hand if the sailor is not so tall, they don't need it.

NS suggested delaying 1 year and asking information from sailmakers, and the TC members to study better the impact of the changes (costs, etc...). We need more info and this change isn't urgent.

Voting:

In Favour – 5

Against – 11

Abstentions – 0

Not approved.

For this to be considered, next year it would need to be re-submitted with further supporting information.

2) Rule A.11.3 (Certification) (submitted by the TC)

Change last sentence as follows:

.... The certification authority shall retain the original IMF and supply a certified true copy to the owner.

Reason: to ensure that IMFs are kept in a safe place and that if needed, true copies can be made at will. With the present rule, if an IMF is lost, then the boat must be re-measured. Certain Certification Authorities like the RYA are disregarding the class rules entirely and keep the original IMF without giving to the owners any papers at all

Discussion ISR ITA BEL

Voting:

In Favour – 4

Against – 5

Absences – 2

Not approved.

Any other business.

In the absence of any other business the meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

Attachment A

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

29th July, 2007

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the International 420 Class Annual General Assembly, Firstly, I would like to thank Istanbul Sailing Club for hosting our meeting this evening.

I am happy to report on our yearly activities; thank you all for your cooperation and special thanks to my colleagues in the Executive Committee for working days and nights for the benefit of the Class.

In 2006 a total of 435 boats were built, and it seems as if production in 2007 will be at about the same level.

Last year we lost the bid for the two forthcoming ISAF Youth Worlds. Although, the International 420 was not chosen as the double handed boat in Canada-2007 or Denmark-2008, we, the EC, feel that we have done our best to keep the 420 as the chosen ISAF Youth Boat.

We worked hard on 2009 and we are pleased that in Brazil our boat will be again the chosen double handed boat. As we stated last year, we will help the organizer in Brazil by shipping the boats from Europe. We feel that this is one of the most effective uses of our development budget for that year.

Now we are in Turkey, which will host the 2010 event, and we hope that they will also choose too the 420. Again we need all your help and support to have the 420 back as the Youth boat at ISAF Youth event in the future.

Last year we had more and more countries from South America, Asia and Eastern Europe adopting the International 420 as part of their sailing programme; we have tried to help them with their first steps.

Events - Last year we held two events: the Worlds in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, and the Junior Europeans in Tavira, Portugal - first time this event has been combined with the 470s. They were successful events.

This year we have already held the 2007 Worlds in New Zealand, and again I think this was a success.

The ISAF Youth Worlds 2006 was held in Weymouth, Great Britain, where Nautivela supplied the 420 with 36 countries entered (35 boys, 24 girls). This year, with the use of the 29er, the numbers reduced to 23 countries with 23 boys and 18 girls.

This year, for the first time, we are trialling on-line registration for entry to our Junior Europeans. We hope that this will work effectively, and that from next year we will be able to register all the event entries through this method.

Race Management - Our NoR and SI were updated but we keep the same agreed philosophy.

The Class Web Site – The new Class web site work well, and we have a more accessible site. Many thanks to Catherine and Tony who run the site. We will have more details later from Catherine.

Development – Development is one of the most important issues which we have to work on for the future of the class. Jose Massapina, who is in charge of class development, will report on what we have done, our progress and the EC plans.

At 2006 we sold almost 3,400 sail buttons. As we agreed at our earlier meetings, all this money is accounted separately and will be used to promote and develop the class. Catherine and Jose will report on this later.

Accounts – The Class account is in very healthy position and Catherine will report on this later; thanks Catherine for your work.

Builders – We have three new builders since our last GA - POL (Sport-Sails Center), RSA (Performance Craft CC) and CHN (Simon Cooke) and several other builders are in the process of obtaining licenses. The TC will visit and check the builders and then recommend to ISAF.

Most of our builders have bought the new templates from ISAF. Dimitris the TC chairman will give you later more information.

Class Rules - The date of the new method of hull measurement was 1st July 2007. We gave our builders enough time to be ready for this change. More details will be given by Dimitris.

The class future – in the coming years we must focus on the class development, trying to have more new countries adopting the 420 as the youth programme boat, produce some class publications such as a disc with basic training, the boat etc. and have more coaches clinics. We also need more contact with our builders. I hope that in the next year our TC members will visit the builders and we also plan a meeting with all the builders. The third thing we must do is to review and update the Articles of Association of the Class.

Thank you for your attention, I wish to you all a pleasant evening.

Nino Shmueli
President
International 420 Class Association

Attachment B

Annual Report on Promotion & Development 2006 – 7

29th July 2007

Dear Friends,

Since 2004, when I was elected vice-president of the International 420 Class Association, I have been in charge of 420 promotion and development. With a lot of help from my EC friends, I know that I've done the best job I can to promote the 420. The 420 is still growing all over the world as it is the best double handed dinghy for youth training.

This year we have had new class associations formed in both Chile and South Africa. The growth in these nations represents a significant step for both the 420 Class and sailing as an international sport.

Last year, after our General Assembly at Las Palmas, Spain, we continued with the promotional and development plan as follow:

420 and 470 Combined event: Last year, for the first time we organized a combined event for 420s and 470s. This event, the 420 and 470 Junior European Championships was held in Tavira, Portugal and it was successful. The target of this action has been well reached and we could see the 420 crews very enthusiastic to be among the older 470 sailors.

Junior European Championship - Jim Saltonstall's overview: During the Junior European Championship, we did another action with the well known British ISAF coach Jim Saltonstall. During the final days of the championship, Jim did an overview of the races, with a daily film and comments. We held this everyday in the big marquee, with many sailors attending, often from countries with smaller fleets and needing advice. The subsequent reports from the sailors and coaches was that it was very interesting and we should do it again.

420 Promotional DVD at the ISAF Meeting: At the ISAF annual meeting last November in Helsinki, the International 420 Class EC was represented by the president Nino Shmueli and myself. We had the 5 minute DVD, of the 420 and 470 Junior European Championship in Tavira, running for three days on the televisions of the Congress House and Hotel. People from all over the world could see fantastic footage from our Class.

420 EC Member on the "Global Development Sailing Group": Also, during the ISAF annual meeting, last November, a working group called "The Global Development Sailing Group"

was formed looking at the needs of the development of sailing sports all over the world. I have been invited to take part in the group which is good news for the 420 Class. "Fight" to maintain the ISAF Youth Class Status: Last year the International 420 lost the bid for the forthcoming two ISAF Youth Worlds; the International 420 was not chosen as the double handed boat in Canada, 2007 or Denmark, 2008. We did our best to keep the 420 as the chosen ISAF Youth boat. We worked hard on 2009 and we are happy to report that in Brazil our boat will again be the chosen double handed boat. As we stated last year, we will help the organizers in Brazil by shipping the boats from Europe. Now we are in Turkey, which will host the 2010 event, and we hope that they will also choose the 420. Looking to the fact that we have more and more countries from South America, South Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe adopting the International 420 as part of their sailing programme, we are very confident that our boat will again be chosen for future ISAF Youth World Championships

2nd Coaching Coaches Seminar: Last March, we held in Palma de Mallorca, Spain, the 2nd Coaching Coaches Seminar. This coaching seminar organized by the International 420 Class Association was again a very successful development action, with 16 coaches from 11 countries and 2 continents taking part. This year we built upon the first seminar by taking it to a higher level and including 'on the water' activities.

South American Optimist Championship Promotional Action: A member of the International 420 Class Association was present at the South American Optimist Championship, speaking and giving promotional material to the optimist sailors. This is a very good target audience because we had 185 young sailors and potential 420 sailors in the future, from 17 countries, mainly from the American Continents.

1st South American Coaches Seminar: As we planned last year, everything is arranged with the 420 Brazilian Class Association President Sylvia Adler, to organize next November the 1st South American Coaches Seminar. It will take place in Rio de Janeiro Yacht Club, with the same format as those held in Europe. Shortly full information will be posted on the International 420 Class website.

2008 Promotional and Development Plan:

- North and Central America Coaches Seminar: In the spring of 2008 we will organize a coaches seminar for the North and Central American 420 coaches.
- Easter in Europe Promotional Action: As we did this year, 2006, we are planning to be present for a promotional activity at Easter, at Garda Lake, Italy, where the Circolo Vela Garda hold a big Optimist event with about 600 sailors.

Promotional Material:

We now hold in stock a variety of promotional items which include stickers, leaflets, CDs, pins, key rings, etc. we are used to promote the class in a variety of ways. In addition to the above events, we have also used these to good effect at national levels where the 420 is just developing.

To be done:

- New Class Publication for youth training: We are planning to produce a book in English and Spanish, looking to help our young sailors and coaches who work on youth training.
- 420 Basic Training DVD: We are also planning to produce a DVD for basic training in 420s.

Thanks for your attention.

Istanbul, 29th of July 2007

José Massapina
Vice-President
Int. 420 Class Association

Attachment C

2007 Technical Committee Report

During the past year the two main tasks of the Technical Committee were a) the introduction of a new version of the class rules with the amendments approved during the 2006 GA in Las Palmas and b) the application of the new hull measurement system with the new templates by our builders.

CLASS RULES

The new edition of the class rules was finally approved by the ISAF before Christmas 2006, but the full text version was posted on the ISAF website in March 2007. The new version of the Hull measurement form was also approved by the ISAF, to reflect the re-numbering of certain rules and to accommodate the changes in the hull measurement system. The building specification will be also available on the ISAF website soon for free downloading, since a few minor details are still under modification.

HULL BUILDER UPDATE

The new set of templates, including all 10 measurement stations instead of the old set of 3, was finally in production during 2006 and full sets have been shipped to most of our class builders. Because of the delays in production and delivery of the templates, the application date of the new hull measurement system had been moved to July 1st 2007. During the last 12 months, we added the following new builders to our list:

- 1) Sport-Sails Center (POL)
- 2) Performance Craft CC (RSA)
- 3) Simon Cooke (CHN-NZL)

There are also three other builders (2 in CHN and 1 in MEX) in the process of prototype approval within the next months.

However, regarding our old builders, only LENAM (ESP) has successfully finished measurement of his hull with the new system, while NAUTIVELA and ZIEGELMAYER are in the process of making new moulds, and XTREME, FACCENDA, ROGA and BOUTEMY are either waiting to receive the new templates or waiting for hull measurement verification. Boats measured before July 1st 2007 are free to be sold by the builders at any time, even if their moulds have not been approved with the new system.

OFFICIAL MEASURERS

In March 2007 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 only a limited number of countries, less than in 2006. 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.

IN-HOUSE CERTIFICATION

Contrary to ISAF announcements last year, the IHC system is still not in application and will probably not start before the end of 2007.

INTERNATIONAL MEASURERS

Currently, there are only two active International Measurers for our class in Europe, with a third close to retiring. For that reason, the class organized a measurer's clinic during the 2007 European Championship. In this way, we hope to have two more IMs in Europe in 2008. 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 higher 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.

Dimitris Dimou
Chairman,
Int. 420 Class Technical Committee