



International RS Feva Class Association AGM

GV LNI Follonica

Friday 28th July 2022, 2024

0900

Chair: Jon Partridge Secretary: Lucy Jameson	
Apologies : None received	JP
Present: Aymeric Blin (SUI), Jo Powell (GBR), Miroslav Horak (CZE), Bart Van Dartel (NED), Uco Sonnenberg (NED), Rene Frederick (NED), Nikolas Gianni (ITA), Paul Lecke (GER), Darius Gerasimavicius (LTU), Emilio Giambarda (ITA), Matteo Rusticali (ITA), Lorenzo Mantovani (ITA), Holiza Krejčířik (CZE), Simon Greenhalge (GBR), Tessa Bartlett (GBR), Faye Caswell (GBR), Joseph French (MLT), Jake Elsbury (RS Representative), Oli King (RS Representative)	
Welcome: Jon Partridge welcomed all those at the meeting and thanked them for taking the time to come.	JP
Committee Update The Committee has been sparse; no chair is in place at this time. The general feeling from the 2019 AGM was that all are happy with everything as long as the events are run well. There is still a need for every country to represent one contact as a representative. Technical Representatives Frans van den Biggelaar and Nick Neve have attended the 2023 RS Feva World Championships; Frans has also been supporting the 2024 RS Feva World Championships planning.	
Finances Update JP confirmed that the class is sitting on about €30K of reserves built up over the years with an operating surplus of around £7K. RS Games in 2022 made for a good year, primarily due to being a home event, making overheads much less. JP proposed to add another paid member of staff into the Int RS Class Association team to act as a “sailing secretary” They would manage all on-water activity from Sis to Safety; this	

will take the pressure off LJ and allow the incoming member of staff to learn what is required of the role and allowing LJ to move on.
All agreed, but Matteo Rusticali added that this should not impact what was already considered a high entry fee for the World Championships. JP said that he is very conscious of the entry fee increase but explained that it was, in part, the mistake of the class as the entry fee stagnated for years, had the increase incrementally happened over the years, the increase would not have been so evident but added it was required.
Joe Powell asked if it could be an idea that you have a Championships entry when people can self-assign themselves to the Bronze fleet appealing to newbies and younger sailors, this could avoid the need for qualification and could reduce cost. LJ will look at this.

Events Update

The plan is for the Worlds to be in the Netherlands in 2024, with the venue still to be confirmed, and so an update will follow in the Autumn when details are confirmed. The same will be the case for Europeans, which look to be in either Lithuania or Estonia
2025 Worlds will be in France, and in 2026 the current plan is for the Worlds to take place in Travemünder but this is subject to change depending on the RS Games taking place.

NZL is still keen to host a World Championships, so it has been confirmed that the class can have a year when 2 World Championships take place, so it is proposed that NZL be added to the calendar for December 2025 – January 2026.

San Fransisco World Championships is currently on hold due to expenses.
There was some discussion around the time of year for Europeans; feedback was varied with sailors school holidays starting and ending at different times. It was concluded that we go with the best time of year for the venue hosting.

There was some discussion around bringing back the International RS Feva Training Camp at Easter time and also the opportunity for a coach coaches session. LJ will look into this.

Finances Update

JP confirmed that the class is sitting on about £30K of reserves built up over the years with an operating surplus of around £7K. RS Games in 2022 made for a good year, mostly due to being a home event, making overheads much less.

JP proposed to add another paid member of staff into the Int RS Class Association team to act as a “sailing secretary” they would manage all on-water activity from Sis to Safety; this will take the pressure off LJ and allow the incoming member of staff to learn what is required of the role and allowing LJ to move on.

All agreed, but Matteo Rusticali added that this should not impact what was already considered a high entry fee for the World Championships. JP said that he is very conscious of the entry fee increase but explained that it was, in part, the mistake of the class as the entry fee stagnated for years, had the increase incrementally happened over the years, the increase would not have been so evident but added it was required.

Joe Powell asked if it could be an idea that you have a Championships entry when people can self-assign themselves to the Bronze fleet appealing to newbies and younger sailors, this could avoid the need for qualification. LJ will look at this.

Class Rules Update

During the event, there have been some questions relating to single adjustable bridled and minimum shroud lengths; there will be a job to tidy up the class rules for these and other rules. Once done, the class will circulate with key representatives worldwide for input and feedback.

RS Sailing as a manufacturer, would like to pursue the opportunity to look at different sail designs and sail materials. This should offer the opportunity to decrease costs, update sail, and keep up to date.

The proposed process would be

Autumn 2023 -Start new sail design process

Easter 2024 – When prototype sails are produced, send at least two sets each out to key contacts worldwide for testing.

World Championships 2024 vote to adopt the new sails.

New sails should be made ready for RS Feva World Championships 2025

Old sails will be Grandfathered for five years – (A grandfather clause, also known as grandfather policy, grandfathering, or grandfathered in, is a provision in which an old rule continues to apply to some existing situations while a new rule will apply to all future cases)

Richard Sheridan asked if the new sail would change the overall set-up; JP added that it was the Main Sail that would see the changes, and Jib and Spinnaker would remain the same.

Simon Greenhalge asked if the Spinnaker could be considered for redesign also since the performance downwind could be improved with some attention to the design of the spinnaker.

JP will create a menu of options that could include looking at the spinnaker with a view to improving performance.

A vote was taken for different sail manufacturers and sail changes, and all voted in favour.

Rule 42 change. It has been highlighted that the current one-turn penalty for infringements is too easy to take and, in many cases, the gains made for the breach compared to the ease of 1 turn means more and more cases of rules being broken and in some cases, teams taking many penalty turns for rule breaks but not losing out as a result. It is proposed that the long-standing class rule of 1 turn penalty be removed. It should then be down to the specific class to decide the penalty turn on an event-by-event basis. Coaches should ensure their sailors are aware of this.

AOB

JP introduced Jake Elsbury; Jake will be another RS representative, representing the manufacturer and bringing his enthusiasm and energy to international events.

Europeans Bid - Darius explained that Lithuania is ready for a European Championships in 2024, with Sponsors and local authorities supporting the vision. It was agreed that the 2024 European Championships would take place in Lithuania. JP will discuss options for making the Charter fleet available. The event will take place in the 3rd week of June 2024

Meeting Closed

Date of next meeting – During 2024 RS Feva World Championships Time and Date TBC