



I.W.C.A. International Windsurfer Class Association



2020 - IWCA a.s.d. - Annual General Meeting

13 December 2020

Report - **International Windsurfer Class Association IWCA a.s.d.**

Established in Italy as an amateur sports association - **(Non-Profit organization)**

Today, 13 December 2020, the **International Windsurfer Class Association IWCA a.s.d.** - hereinafter "IWCA a.s.d." – met The first Annual General Meeting of the IWCA a.s.d. was held in remote access mode via "ZOOM" platform, due to the persistence of the health emergency situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic to discuss and deliberate on the following agenda, agreed unanimously between the members of the IWCA a.s.d. board at the meeting which took place on November 28, 2020 On Line.

2020 was an extremely complicated year, the restrictions caused by the pandemic have severely affected the various regatta calendars established at the beginning of the year by the individual Windsurfer national associations. In any case, the IWCA a.s.d. executive committee decided to close the year with the annual general meeting, inviting to attend representatives from a few countries not yet MNA, but who will be involved for a further development of the activities of Windsurfer Class around the World.

AGENDA:

- **Introduction by the President: Maurizio BUFALINI**

- Report of competitive activities 2019/2020 and most significant events - Activities of the Council
- Participation in trials for the choice of the Olympic board
- Formalization of agreement with Cobra
- **Secretary's report: Vincenzo BAGLIONE**
- Relations with World Sailing
- relations with National Classes
- Relations with the various brands that are part of the "Windsurfer LT" project
- **Treasurer's report: Guido AMATO** - 2019 and 2020 economic activity
- forecast budget for the year 2021
- **Technical Committee Report: Nick BEZ**
- ratification of the proposals of the committee approved by the Council

Various - free discussion

The following members of the Executive Committee and the Technical Committee **were present**, as well as the guests representing some countries in the process of formalizing their membership as classes recognized by the IWCA a.s.d.:

Maurizio Bufalini (Italy), Greg Johns (Australia), Vincenzo Baglione (Italy), Nick Bez (Australia), Guido Amato (Italy), Gerard Delmàs (Spain), Berry Donkersloot (Netherlands), Celine Bordier (France), **absent** Russel Egan (South Africa) and Miki Hideki (Japan);

Nick Bez (Technical Committee President), Edoardo Thermes (Technical Committee), Thomas Davies (Technical Committee - Cobra LTD); **invited** without voting rights: Imai Masako (Japan), Paul Grimshaw (Australia), Jim Kariotis (Australia), Jaako Rewell (Finland), Dominique Rimaud (France), Stephane Delecraz (France), Harold Elfring (Netherlands), Simon Van Der Sluijs (Netherlands), Kees



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Spronsen, Andrew Lamarre (Canada), Karel Lavicky (Czech Republic), **invited absent:** Mark Fleri Soler (Malta), (austria), Claudio Barbuzza (New Zealand).

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The meeting kicked off with the introduction of the President, Maurizio Bufalini, who illustrated the salient points of the association's activity in 2019 and 2020.

He gave an overview of the regattas and the most important events held over the last two years. For 2021 the European Championships are confirmed to be held from 2-6 June in France in St. Cyr and the Australians will confirm as soon as possible if the World Championships in December in Perth can be confirmed. Maurizio gave a summary of the activities of the Council, the very important (in terms of resonance) participation in the Olympic Trials for the choice of the official equipment for the 2024 Paris Olympics as well as the formalization of the partnership agreement with Cobra, the manufacturer of the Windsurfer LT Boards. He explained that according to the rules of the IWCA a.s.d. there will be another general meeting in a year and at the end of 2022 there will be elections of the new Council. Other activities of the Council are the more regular meetings in 2020, the set-up of the IWCA website and a draft of a contract for the assignment of international and national regattas.

(text- taken from President's presentation)

"Report of competitive activities 2018/2020 and most significant events

Main international Events:

World Trophy - Italy 2018; World Championship - Italy 2019; Netherland 2019; Siam Cup Thailand 2018, 2019.

National Championships

Spain 2018; Holland 2019; France 2020; Australia 2018, 2019, 2020; Italy 2018, 2019, 2020; Czech Republic 2020; Finland 2020; Japan 2019, 2020

Participation in trials for the choice of the Olympic board

Pre-qualified as the only non-foil class in addition to the RS-X, the current Olympic board

Eliminated before trials in the water. The choice fell on the IQ Foil

Formalization of agreement with Cobra

It defines the mutual commitments IWCA – Cobra. In particular Cobra:

- 1) guarantees a fair price and any increase will be discussed with IWCA
- 2) any changes must be agreed in advance
- 3) the entry of each new brand partner must be authorized by IWCA
- 4) pays IWCA 2% of the ex factory price for 2019, and 3% for subsequent years

The duration of the agreement is up to 2024, subsequently renewable, and a Cobra representative joins the Technical Committee

What awaits us in 2021 and 2022

2021 World Championships Perth - Australia

2022 Europe, probably Italy

The Société Nautique du Golfe des Lecques (France) will organize the European Windsurfer in June 2021 (from the 2nd to the 6th)

Agreement with World Sailing

Official affiliation of all National Classes (to date Australia, Japan, South Africa, France, Italy, Holland, Spain are the founders). Finland already formally established, waiting for Great



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Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Malta, Canada, USA and others

Agreement with suppliers for mast, boom and sails

Preparation of all standard contracts with the organizers of international events, with indication of the minimum endowment obligations, new website and social activities.”

SECRETARY REPORT

Immediately after, the Secretary, Vincenzo Baglione, took the floor and provided a picture of the relations with World Sailing, the individual national associations, federations and the various brands that are part of the "Withe Board" Windsurfer LT project.

In particular, in the context of World Sailing, useful information was given on how the activity of "sailboards" has always been important for the promotion of sailing sports in general. The Windsurfer board, since its inception, has had the undisputed merit, mainly thanks to the schools of "windsurfing boards", of having created the "Windsurfing Community". Thousands of fans have been approached to SAIL, increasing the number of memberships of those sailing federations involved in various parts of the world.

For a further development of the Windsurfer class in 2021, underlined Vincenzo Baglione - Covid19 permitting - it is important to promote the youth activity of junior (under 13) and youth (under 15/19) athletes. The same age groups that in the past have been taken into consideration - with success - by the Mistral monotype class, which produced special rigs for the very young to race and which were adequate for beginners.

It seems coherent, in this sense, to start a reflection on the possibility of encouraging the opening of "IWCA School" with the involvement of the federations, of World Sailing itself and of those "Windsurfer Brands" that want to invest in this educational/promotional "mission" in particular for the "Windsurfing Community" and in general for sailing. It seems coherent, in this sense, to start a reflection by Cobra LTD, which has resurrected our IWCA Class on the creation of "school packs" with appropriate rigs and exclusive offers reserved for sailing clubs and federations operating under the aegis by World Sailing. The aim is to revive the "IWCA School" with Windsurfer L.T. of any brand of the windsurfer family, with rig. and proportional sails for beginners including Youth and Junior, and possibly ready for regattas or simple walks with the classic rig.

The Secretary also represented the need to find a synthesis of the various organizational problems that have arisen with the IWCA Europe a.s.d. whose competences are not yet well defined, often resulting in a real overlap with those necessarily typical of the IWCA a.s.d. It seems appropriate, in this sense, the downsizing of the competences of the IWCA Europe a.s.d in the Windsurfer Italy Class (IWCA Italy) of which the current IWCA Europe a.s.d. is a direct derivation, more focused on the needs of the Italian territory as Australian, Netherlands, France etc. etc.

TREASURER REPORT

The treasurer of the IWCA, Guido Amato, subsequently illustrated the first steps in the financial management of the association, illustrating to the participants the still meager economic activity of 2019 and 2020, a budget hypothesis for 2021 and the administrative and accounting activities in place to allow the association to operate correctly.

Guido Amato underlined that the IWCA a.s.d. did not carry out any economic operation in the years 2018 and 2019 and consequently there was no flow of money either in income or outflows. The costs for those necessary and basic administrative activities were borne FREE OF CHARGE by some members who formed the IWCA a.s.d. in Torbole for the 2018 World Trophy. These costs will not be reimbursed. Additional entries and exits were managed for some activities - on a transitional basis - in accordance with the European Windsurfer Class who directly managed its economic activity. The IWCA a.s.d. on the basis of the financial contribution already paid by Cobra, has formally informed World Sailing that it will recognize the percentage due on the basis of the provisions of the recognized classes and as per the contract that is being defined between IWCA and World Sailing itself.

Below is the balance sheet with the data to be perfected by the financial tax consultant by entering the exact expense of opening the bank account as well as those purely fiscal deriving from the laws of the Italian territory.

IWCA - CURRENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

	2021	2020
<u>CASH FLOW INCOME</u>		
MNA FEES	1.000,00 €	
Cobra ltd Agreement	10.000,00 €	9.554,30 €
Championships Entry Fee	3.000,00 €	
Interest Rates		0,01 €
<u>CASH FLOW EXPENSES</u>		
World Sailing	1.500,00 €	220,50 €
Consultant + Acc. Fee	1.500,00 €	21,31 €
Website, Social, Zoom	2.000,00 €	
Supporting Championships	3.000,00 €	

Additional exits and incomes - from the constitution of the IWCA a.s.d., were managed - on a transitional basis - in accordance with the IWCA Europe a.s.d. who directly managed its economic activity. The members of the IWCA a.s.d. they paid their annual membership fees through their national associations.

The economic activity began with the opening of a bank account for a primary Italian credit institution made in the summer of 2020 and where the contribution equal to euro 9.554,30 was paid by Cobra LTD, based on the primary verbal account (kindly agreement) and subsequently with the signing of a formal agreement between IWCA a.s.d. and Cobra LTD, in compliance with the relationships established with World Sailing.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Nick Bez presided over the ratification operations of the proposals put forward by the technical committee, already approved by the executive committee. The most important are the confirmation of the pumping rules according to the Australian rule' - which modifies Rule 42 to limit upwind pumping to only 30 seconds after the start for course racing'. A confirmation of the two possible weight class dividing systems to be applied during regattas; 1 Confirmation of the



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floating system, 2. Fixed weight classes, but with a review of the weight levels based on data collected from a variety of National and international events that will be lower than before.

COUNTRY (MNA) REPORTS

On behalf of the national associations Gerard Delmàs for the Spanish association explained that the formalization for the establishment of the Spanish Association is in course. The calendar 2021 has not been official yet, but in preparation.

As explained by Luca Frascari and Edoardo Thermes, respectively president and secretary of the IWCA Europe a.s.d. class has a draft ready of the 2021 calendar with the Italian National races, an Open National championship in Sardinia in September and an international regatta planned in July/August in Finland, as discussed at the board meeting - on Zoom - of the IWCA Europe a.s.d. class Association on Friday 11/12/2020.

Edoardo Thermes also provided the numerical data of the class members (about 750 - excluding Australia and Japan - as per the list of athletes shown on the website: www.windsurferclass.com) IWCA Europe a.s.d. however, it has carried out an intense and fruitful activity, coordinating with the IWCA a.s.d., for the benefit of other class associations and all athletes, including those of nations where there are no established classes.

Céline Bordier, IWCA France president, explains that in France the Association did very well. There are 80 members and by the end of next year, they hope to have reached 100 members. 3 main groups, in the South in the North West and in the East in collaboration with Switzerland There is already a national calendar draft and they are looking forward to the European Championships in St. Cyr close to Marseille. There will be a good accommodation and great conditions on the water in June.

Harold Elfring of the Netherlands explains a bit more about the Dutch Class. They have an internet site www.windsurferclass.nl and 94 members. They will reach 100 members in 2021 and they hope more. Apart from being a member, they also have a business club. This is very interesting for members who have their own company as certain costs can be deducted from the tax declaration. They want to introduce Track and Trace for the regatta's in 2021.

There is already a draft of a regatta calendar where they will race with other classes under a joined organization but with separate regattas. Another important activity are the Windsurfer tours. They have been started in 2020 because of COVID and are very popular and therefore will even be more important for 2021. It is the ideal opportunity for attracting new members as they can rent LT. boards and participate.

Finland closes the European National Classes with Jaako Rewell announcing that the National Class is active and has 30 active members. They confirm that they intend to organize an international open race under the name of World Trophy at the end of July or beginning of August. They also organize tours and want to increase this activity as many people with second houses on the lakes are looking with much interest to the Long board activity.

Australian Class President Nick Bez explains that the activity in Australia is growing strongly with over 250 Class members. Lots of activity for social and racing across the country with a focus on



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women and Youth joining is a priority. 2020 National championships attracted 116 competitors aged 12 - 76 years. 2021 National Championships expect around 120 (subject to COVID). Australian Class look forward to the organization of the 2021/22 Worlds, scheduled for Perth Western Australia - which they hope they will be able to confirm in a couple of months. Imai Masako closes the meeting with information from Japan. They have around 30 active members and this group is not growing lately, as there is a lot of competition from other classes in Japan. Unfortunately, the regatta of the World Masters Games has been postponed by a year to 2022 because of COVID. Miki Hideki is the main organizer of the Japanese Class, but could not attend the meeting.

The President Maurizio Bufalini thanked the attendees and before closing the Assembly asked to express their vote - what was approved by the Council, in particular the economic budget and the changes to the class regulations to be sent to World Sailing, which were unanimously approved by the participants, including those entitled to them.

(Edit by: Guido Amato - Berry Donkersloot – Nik Bez)

The Secretary
Vincenzo Baglione

The President
Maurizio Bufalini