

OFFSHORE RACING CONGRESS

World Leader in Rating Technology

Secretariat:
YCCS, 07020 Porto Cervo
Sardinia, Italy

Tel: +39 0789 902 202
Fax: +39 0789 957 031
ORC@compuserve.com



www.orc.org

UK Office:
Five Gables, Witlesham
Ipswich, IP6 9HG England

Tel: +44 1473 785 091
Fax: +44 1473 785 092
ORCclub@compuserve.com

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Management Committee Meeting -- Jan 29-30, London

The new Grand Prix initiative plans were refined in light of the very constructive responses received from most leading design offices, who had been asked to comment on a discussion paper circulated earlier. A detailed proposal for the further development of three new "box-rule" classes is being determined by ORC and the RORC. Paolo Massarini was appointed as coordinator of the project.

GPH rating bands for ORC classes were finalized. These had required further study on the basis of the fleet-wide shift in ratings resulting from 2005 VPP formula changes agreed at the Annual General Meeting. The 2005 class limits were agreed as follows:

- Maxi -- no GPH limit (LOA minimum of 23.9 m only).
- IMS 50 -- GPH min. 496.0, max. 525.0.
- IMS 600 -- GPH min. 578.0, max. 610.0.
- IMS 670 -- GPH min. 625.0, max. 675.0.

Sail Inventory Limits (IMS Regs 205), graduated by GPH, required adjustment in group limits as well:

- **2004:** Above 720.0 720.0 - 585.0 584.9 - 505.0 Below 505.0
- **2005:** Above 720.0 720.0 - 578.0 577.9 - 496.0 Below 496.0

The ORC 2005 Event Calendar was updated with the following changes/additions:

- The IMS 670 Worlds -- in Alicante, Spain 19-24 July.
 - The Central European Championships -- in Croatia 18-25 June.
 - The Sportboat Europeans -- in Trieste 12-17 September -- Special Regs Cat 4 will apply. Yachts from several new IMS-countries are expected in these more economical classes.
- Main event: **Rolex IMS Worlds** in Mahon, Spain 11-17 July.

Continued **coordination with ISAF** was planned on several important topics including review of Special Regulations items (life rafts, Cat 2/3 etc) as well as the IMS 670 and Sportboat classes. ORC's research on establishing canting keel and water ballast stability standards had been appreciated by ISAF and the sailing community.

Chief Measurer, Nicola Sironi, summarized plans for the **ORC Measurers Conference** at Delft 11-13 February. An automated Registration Form was provided on the web. The topics centered on Rating Office software aids, demonstration of new laser hull scanning methods and techniques for special features such as canting keels and water ballast. A tour of the Delft towing tank facility is included.

Four of the **ORC annual publications** are scheduled to be distributed within the next weeks from the ORC's U.K. Office. An agreement for distribution of the new "**Velum NG**" **IMS/Club scoring software** will be finalized soon and made available for purchase on the ORC website.

Arrangements were made with Sten Edholm (Sweden) and Sven Christensen (Germany) to put additional impetus into the ORC's **promotional projects**. A newly formatted **website** is scheduled to be on line 1st April and a package explaining ORC Club and IMS and effective implementation procedures is planned for the same time period.

The next Management Committee meeting is scheduled in Rapallo, Italy 7-8 May.