

**Minutes of the General Assembly meeting
held on 14th July 2007 at Estoril**

Version approved by the Delegates and the Management Committee members having attended the meeting, subject to formal approval during the next GA meeting.

List of appendices attached to the minutes:

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| 1. Acting President's report | (refer to item 4.a of the minutes) |
| 2. Secretary General's report | (refer to item 4.c of the minutes) |
| 3. Technical Committee Chairman's report | (refer to item 4.d of the minutes) |
| 4. MC Secretary's report | (refer to item 4.e of the minutes) |
| 5. Accounts for 2006 | (refer to item 4.g of the minutes) |
| 6. Provisional accounts for 2007 as of 30/06/2007 | (refer to item 4.g of the minutes) |
| 7. US submission for Class Rule change | (refer to item 5.b of the minutes) |
| 8. AUS submission for Class Rule change | (refer to item 5.c of the minutes) |
| 9. MC proposal for Champ. Org. Manual change | (refer to item 6.a of the minutes) |
| 10. Championship organisation chart | (refer to item 6.b and c of the minutes) |
| 11. GER submission for Constitution change | (refer to item 8 of the minutes) |
| 12. Comparison table related to GER submission | (refer to item 8 of the minutes) |
| 13. Budget for 2008 | (refer to item 9.b of the minutes) |

Members with rights to vote, attending or represented at the meeting on 14th July 2007

National 470 Class Associations having sent delegates:

ARG, AUT, CHI, CRO, FIN, FRA, GER, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA, JPN, NED, QAT, SIN, SUI, TUR, USA,

i.e. 18 members present

National 470 Class Associations having sent proxies before limit date of 30th June 2007:

BUL (to TUR),

i.e. 1 member represented

Individual members attending or represented: none

Total number of votes present or represented at the meeting on 14th July: 434

Management Committee (MC) members attending the meeting:

Alberto Predieri (President), Marta Weores (First Vice-President), Alain Corcuff (Secretary General), Dimitris Dimou (Technical Committee Chairman), Erico Hoffman, Arthur Thüringer

Other attendees: Martin Steiger (Auditor), Yalcin Gürkan (MC secretary), David Kent from the Scottish Sailing Institute (partly)

Checking of attendance and examination of proxies have been performed by Alain Corcuff and Yalcin Gurkan.

The quorum being reached (18 members present for 14 required), the meeting was declared open on 14th July 2007 at 10.00 a.m. in the Vila Gale Estoril Hotel (Portugal) by the President Alberto Predieri.

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1) WELCOME BY THE PRESIDENT

Alberto welcomed all the participants.

2) REPORT OF THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE VOTES, IF ANY, AND APPROVAL OF THE ASSIGNMENT PROPOSED BY THE COMMITTEE

Alain Corcuff reported about registration of the members present or represented at the meeting. He informed the General Assembly that he had received proxies from members after the deadline of 30th June that should not be considered unless otherwise unanimously agreed by the attendees. Rüdiger Schuchardt from Germany objected to consider late proxies, which then were rejected.

The final situation is then 18 members present and 1 member represented, totalising 434 votes.

Nobody objected about the Management Committee (MC) decision to appoint Yalcin Gürkan, Dimitris Dimou and Erico Hoffman to check and validate the votes during the meeting.

3) VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING DATED 01/12/2006

The minutes of the General Assembly meeting held in Istanbul on 14-15 October 2006 that had been posted on the 470 Internationale website (www.470.org/-Administration-) and sent to all members on 28th December 2006 were unanimously approved.

4) MANAGEMENT OF THE 470 INTERNATIONALE DONE BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SINCE THE LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**a) REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**
(President's report: appendix 1)

Alberto gave his report on the activities of the MC since the last GA meeting.

No comment was made.

On behalf of the MC, Alberto proposed an honorary membership position to Alain Corcuff, due to his dedication to the Class, high level of professionalism and very long years of service within the Class. The proposal was unanimously agreed by the GA. Alberto presented the certificate to Alain, who thanked the GA with a short speech.

b) **REPORT OF THE FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT ON PROMOTIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

Marta presented a verbal report, explaining the successful implementation of the Class promotional and development programmes, namely the Olympic Pathway Solidarity Grant (OPSG) and the International Solidarity Programme (ISP). Through these programmes crews from new nations joining the 470 community were helped by the 470 Internationale. The OPSG consisted of offering six chartered boats at a very low price to take part in the World Championships at Cascais and of providing to eight boats clinics and coaching free of charge for the Worlds. The ISP consisted of granting six crews with sets of sails and offering them entry fees in one Championship.

An outcome from Cascais, which was the first step of the OPSG, is that all participating crews returned home with a great experience.

The MC will prolong these programmes in 2008. All necessary information will be made available soon on the website and the communication will be improved to make such information known by all National Authorities.

Nino Shmueli from Israel commented that the Class should continue organising Coach Clinics in different parts of the world as done in 2006 in Istanbul.

c) **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**
(Secretary General's report: appendix 2)

Alain gave his report on the administrative activities of the Association: affiliation and communication with the members, MC meetings, relationships with the French administration, third-party liability insurance coverage of the Association, juridical and fiscal audit ordered by the MC.

No comment was made.

d) **REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**
(TC Chairman's report: appendix 3)

Dimitris gave his report. The headlines were:

- The ISAF finally issued new Class Rules on May 22, 2007 taking into account errors which had been detected in the 2006 Class Rules.
- Measurement Form was updated and published by ISAF at the end May 2007. Sailors were advised during the Worlds at Cascais to use the new form in the future. Builders were also requested to use the new form from now.
- The building specifications were updated. ISAF should publish new version by the end of July 2007. ISAF is now working on transforming the line plans and templates into digital format.
- The Technical Committee reached an agreement with the ISAF Technical Co-ordinator to get copy of the technical archives of the 470 Class. The delivery is still pending.
- As per 13 July 2007, no sail-maker had got yet a final license for in-house certification (IHC). North Sails JPN and Olympic Sails ITA should join the IHC system.
- As new builder, Simon Cooke asked ISAF to send him digital plans before the prototype construction, but the ISAF has not sent them yet as they do not exist (all the previous boat

suppliers received only paper plans). ISAF would intend to create such digital plans. Simon Cooke's plan was to have boats ready before the 2008 Worlds in Melbourne.

- Yamaha was in process to have a new mould soon.
- There had been two major problems on the technical field:
 - Sail certification: a lot of sailors arrived for sailing Championships with non-measured sails. Information given to the sailors on this point should be strengthened. On the other hand the IHC should partly solve the issue.
 - The weight of the masts was a big problem in the Worlds at Cascais. The masts from two manufacturers were found below the minimum weight. Dimitris proposed to discuss this issue in point 5.a of the agenda. The GA unanimously agreed to add this item on the agenda..

No comment was made.

e) **REPORT OF THE MC SECRETARY ABOUT 2007 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**
(MC Secretary's report: appendix 4)

Yalcin gave his report. The headlines were:

- The very positive feedback from the exceptionally successful championships organized by Nautical Club of Thessaloniki.
- Last year the GA asked the Management Committee to find a solution to increase the participation of the sailors in the opening and closing ceremonies. The MC decided to experiment an incentive programme, which helped in attracting a 47% participation to these ceremonies. The MC will continue this incentive programme in JWC Bourgas and JEC Medemblik.
- A very positive aspect was the high level of Media works, including streaming videos broadcasted live on daily basis via internet and pod-casts also broadcasted on the evenings, containing interviews, scenes from the races, from the boat-park etc.

No comment was made.

f) **REPORT(S) OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Erico reported that the website receives around 800 different visitors/day and during the last months it increased up to 1500 visitors per day. A new website was designed and tested since some months, the aim being to have it on-line within two months. The Forum part was also prepared under protected format from spams. Scott Fox from USA volunteered to control the forum for a year time.

Arthur briefed the GA, about the successful initiation of our Class merchandising, experimented for two days in Thessaloniki. The programme will continue in future Championships and with on-line sales proposed on the website. No comment was made.

g) **REPORT OF THE TREASURER ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2006 AND ON THE PROVISIONAL ACCOUNTS 2007**

(Accounts for 2006: appendix 5)

(Provisional accounts for 2007 as per 30/06/2007: appendix 6)

Alberto mentioned that our Treasurer, Marina Viganò, due to changes in her professional life since February 2007, was not so available as expected. So, she could not come to the GA meeting but she succeeded in finalising the 2006 accounts in the way they have been presented, which contained some technicalities (mainly concerning booking principles about “*account receivable*” and “*account payable*”, amortisation of costs, amortisation of equipment, bank account opening data) that would need some investigations and clarifications..

Then Alberto presented the accounts for 2006 and the provisional accounts for 2007.

No comment was made

h) **REPORT OF THE AUDITOR ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2006**

Martin presented a verbal report, mentioning that he had received the originals of all documents that he had fully checked, and that he had conducted two audits one in Milan with Marina and one at home with all the documents about the 2006 accounts in hands.

He clearly mentioned that bookkeeping was found very clean and matching with the proof documents and he recommended to the GA to approve bookkeeping for 2006.

But he drew the attention of the GA attendees that he had detected some differences between bookkeeping and the documents made available to the GA, namely the sheets “Profit and Loss 2006” and “Assets and Liabilities 2006”.

Thus, he recommended to the GA to approve the bookkeeping for 2006, but not to approve the 2006 accounts as long as these two sheets have not been carefully checked and cleaned, and to instruct the Management Committee to circulate the final 2006 accounts to the members by the end of the year for their formal approval by the 2008 GA.

i) **VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE 470 INTERNATIONALE DONE BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SINCE THE LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

The GA unanimously approved the management done by the Management Committee within the last year, but the abstention of Italy (28 votes).

j) **VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2006**

The GA unanimously followed the Auditor’s recommendations, i.e. voted a motion asking the MC to clear the 2006 accounts by the end of the year and to circulate them to the members to get the formal approval of the GA in its meeting to be held in 2008.

5) TECHNICAL ISSUES**a) PROPOSAL(s) FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR 470 CLASS RULES CHANGES, IF ANY, AND VOTE TO APPROVE THEIR SUBMISSION TO ISAF**

Dimitris mentioned that a lot of the masts inspected during the Worlds at Cascais had been found below the minimum weight of 10 kg. These masts mainly came from two manufacturers and the main reason for this departure to the Class Rules seemed to come from the thickness of the tube used to make the mast, which had been reduced, meaning that the strength of the masts had been lowered.

Dimitris proposed the following actions to solve the issue:

- to contact the two manufacturers to alert them that their masts were out of the Rules in order they correct the problem for the future masts,
- to “save” the current masts by proposing to ISAF a Class Rule change to allow corrector weights of a maximum of 400 g to be put at the top of the mast.

After discussion, the GA confirmed that the weight of the mast should remain at a minimum of 10 kg and refused to authorise corrector weights. The Management Committee should send a notice to manufacturers, sailors and members to draw their attention on this issue, which should be solved for current masts by changing the fittings only and for future ones by increasing the thickness of the tube. This would apply to the 2008 Worlds.

The other items on the agenda were as follows.

i) Trapeze wires

In its 2006 meeting, the GA approved in its principle to change the trapeze lines from wire rope to rope, subject to further investigations by the Technical Committee about the impact of this change on the overall weight of the mast.

The opinion of the Technical Committee reported by Dimitris is that this change would reduce the weight of the mast and thus would increase the problem raised here above.

The GA unanimously agreed with Dimitris' suggestion to delay by one year this change, the time to solve the issue of the mast weight. Thus, the GA instructed the MC to prepare with the Technical Committee the change proposal to be submitted to the ISAF, with a date of effectiveness which should not be before 1st January 2009.

ii) Spinnaker numbers

Previously, the sail number shown on the spinnaker might be on one line (national letters then the number) or on two lines (national letters on one line, number on a line below). Then the first solution became forbidden.

The Technical Committee proposed to come back on the previous rules and to authorise the two solutions, which may help sailors with sail number changes when the spinnaker is sold.

The GA unanimously agreed on the TC proposal and instructed the MC to send the Class Rule change proposal to the ISAF accordingly.

b) **SUBMISSION FROM THE US 470 CLASS ASSOCIATION (CLASS RULE C15 CHANGE PROPOSAL)**
(US submission: appendix 7)

Scott Fox from USA presented the US submission to allow using turnbukles to adjust the shrouds. Adjusting the shrouds while racing would be forbidden.

Dimitris presented the Technical Committee recommendation which was to postpone the decision after 2012.

The GA rejected the US submission by 234 votes against 198 in favor (secret ballot).

c) **SUBMISSION FROM THE AUSTRALIAN 470 CLASS ASSOCIATION (CLASS RULE CL1 CHANGE PROPOSAL)**
(AUS submission: appendix 8)

No delegate from AUS being present, there was no presentation of the submission. However, the submission was the same as the one rejected by the GA in its 2006 meeting, to decrease the wind speed limit from 10 to 8 knots above which the Racing Rule 42 may not apply.

After discussion, the GA agreed on the AUS submission by 343 votes in favour, 57 against and 34 abstentions (2/3 majority at 290 votes) and instructed the MC to send the Class Rule change proposal to the ISAF accordingly.

d) **PROPOSAL FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO ALLOW COLOURED HULLS (CLASS RULE DI.1.c CHANGE PROPOSAL)**

Alberto presented the proposal consisting of allowing building coloured hulls, without forbidding current and future white hulls. He briefed GA about his communication with the ISAF on this subject.

Dimitris presented the opinion of the Technical Committee, in favour of coloured hulls, and specified that the 470 Class was the only one (among the other Olympic Classes) expressing in the Class Rules that the hull should be white only.

After discussion, the GA agreed on the MC proposal to allow coloured hulls by deleting in the Class Rules the sentence imposing white hulls, and instructed the MC to send the Class Rule change proposal to the ISAF accordingly.

6) **SPORT ISSUES**

a) **PROPOSAL FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR CHANGE TO THE PART I OF THE CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANISATION MANUAL**
(change proposal: appendix 9)

The MC proposed to open to all nations the Junior European Championship, with the same rules as already applied to the European Championships for men and mixed and for women (only sailors from European nations or from nations of the Mediterranean Basin having a 470 Class Association may compete for the title of Champion).

The GA unanimously agreed on this proposal and instructed the MC to update the Manual accordingly for application in 2008.

b) **ON-GOING SITUATION ABOUT THE ORGANISATION OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2007 AND 2008 AND OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS ALREADY ALLOCATED FOR 2009 AND 2010**
(Championship organisation chart: appendix 10)

The MC reported that the organisation of the 2008 Championships did not show any major difficulties.

The 2009 Worlds had been allocated to Copenhagen by the 2006 GA, subject to further investigations from the MC. The MC confirmed the venue at the end of 2006.

The 2009 European had been allocated to Lake Neusiedl (AUT) by the 2006 GA, subject to further investigations from the MC. The MC confirmed the venue at the end of 2006. However, Arthur Thuringer from AUT informed the GA that the venue should be moved to Lake Traunsee due to financial problems. The GA instructed the MC to study this proposal and to make the necessary decisions.

c) **PROPOSALS AND VOTES ON THE VENUES OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS**
(Championship organisation chart: appendix 10)

Alain presented the list of the valid bids received:

- Thessaloniki (GRE) for either the JWC in 2009 or in 2010 or the combined JEC in 2010,
- Qatar (QAT) for the JWC in 2009 or in 2010,
- Varna (BUL) for the Master's Cup in 2008,
- Largs (GBR) for the Europeans in 2011.

He specified that the bid sent by Qatar needed to be completed by a letter from the Organising Authority acknowledging having read the Manual and being committed to apply it and certifying that no law or regulation in its country might prevent some nations to participate.

The representatives of the bidders were then invited to present their offers (Andreas Kosmatopoulos for Thessaloniki, Rashid Al Sulaiti for Qatar, and David Kent for Largs). There was no representative from Varna.

Martin Steiger and Arthur Thuringer pointed out that, as far as they knew, there had already been discussions between Hubert Kirmann, on behalf of the Masters sailors, and Austria for the organisation of the 2008 Master's Cup. Alberto answered that no bid had been received from Austria and that the GA was not in a position to consider other bids than the four bids listed here above.

Finally, the GA unanimously agreed on allocating:

- the 2009 Junior World Championship to Thessaloniki,
- the 2010 Junior World Championship to Qatar, subject to the fulfilment by the organiser of the missing commitments by the end of 2007; the GA instructed the MC to finalise with Qatar their bid, including the choice of the dates,
- the 2008 Masters Cup to Varna,

- the 2011 European Championships to Largs, subject to confirmation by the 2008 GA on the basis of a report from the MC, which should enter discussions with the Scottish Sailing Institute and visit the site during the year.

The GA instructed the MC to look after organisers for the Championships not yet allocated.

7) **CAMPAIGN FOR THE 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES**

Alberto reminded that the ISAF should decide the ten events for the 2012 Olympic Games during its Annual Conference in November 2007, the Classes on which those events would be sailed being chosen in 2008. It pointed out that there would be no chance for the 470 Class to be selected in 2008 if events in double-handed dinghy men and women were not chosen in 2007.

The 470 Internationale intended to send a submission to the ISAF by 1st August 2007 to support the choice of the two events in double-handed dinghy men and women. This submission was made available to all National 470 Class Associations which were warmly asked to push their respective National Authorities to send similar submissions to the ISAF before the limit date of 1st August 2007.

8) **DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON PROPOSAL MADE BY THE GERMAN 470 CLASS ASSOCIATION TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION**

(GER submission: appendix 11)

(Comparison table: appendix 12)

Rüdiger Schuchardt from Germany presented the submission proposing to change the allocation of the number of votes to the members (National 470 Class Associations and Individual Members), the goal being to give more power to those members paying high affiliation fees compared to Individual members or “small” National Class Associations.

According the current Constitution, each Individual member got 4 votes and each National Class Association got 20 votes plus one vote per 25 members declared by the National Class Association.

The GER submission was to allocate 2 votes to each Individual member and 5 votes to each National Class Association plus 10 votes per 5 members declared by the National Association (above the first 25).

Alain presented a table based on the 2006 figures, comparing the votes allocated to each member by application of the current Constitution and of the GER submission. According to this table, the Individual members would move from 4 to 2 votes, the “small” (less than 25 members) National Class Association from 20 to 5 votes, and the biggest ones (JPN and GER) from 36 for JPN and 34 for GER to 165.

The discussion showed that the application of the GER submission would completely change the decision process by the GA, as for example in the current GA, GER plus JPN plus ITA would be enough to block any decision about Class Rules or Constitution changes. JPN delegates expressed their general support to the GER submission but clearly outlined that the outcome of the actual submission was not acceptable to them as it would give too much vote to the big countries.

Alberto proposed to Rüdiger to smoothen his submission by proposing to allocate 2 votes to each Individual member and 5 votes to each National Class Association plus 5 votes per 10 members declared by the National Association (above the first 25). This would lead to have 90 votes for the biggest Associations (JPN and GER). Rüdiger accepted to amend the GER submission as proposed by Alberto.

The GA rejected the amended GER submission by 339 votes against 93 (secret ballot).

9) FINANCIAL ISSUES

a) PROPOSAL FROM THE TREASURER FOR THE REVISED 2007 BUDGET AND VOTE FOR APPROVAL

Alberto explained that the MC decided not to present a revised budget for 2007, due to the fact that the GA meeting was too early compared to the major expenses planned.

The GA agreed with this position and decided to keep the 2007 budget as it was.

b) PROPOSAL FROM THE TREASURER FOR THE 2008 BUDGET AND VOTE FOR APPROVAL (2008 budget: appendix 13)

Alberto presented the budget for 2008 proposed by the MC.

The GA unanimously agreed on, but the abstention of Germany (34 votes).

c) PROPOSAL FROM THE TREASURER ON ANNUAL FEES RATES FOR NATIONAL CLASS ASSOCIATIONS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS, AND ON SAIL BUTTONS/STICKERS PRICE FOR 2009, AND VOTE FOR APPROVAL

Alberto, on behalf of the Treasurer, proposed to keep the same values (for the fees listed in this agenda item) for 2009 as the current ones, but, following to the discussion on the GER submission and its background, to decrease from 4000 € to 2500 € the maximum to be paid by a National Class Association as annual fees, this maximum of 4000 € established some years ago having never been reached for a long.

The proposal is thus as follows:

- annual fees for National Class Associations: 8 € per member with a minimum of 200 € and a maximum of 2500 €,
- annual fees for Individual members: 45 € per member,
- sail buttons/stickers: 10 € each, sold only to the National Class Associations unless otherwise agreed on a case-by-case basis with the relevant National Class Association.

The GA unanimously agreed on this proposal, but the abstention of Germany (34 votes).

10) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

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The meeting closed at 18:30.

Alain CORCUFF
Secretary General

Alberto PREDIERI
President