International 2.4mR
Class Association

Meeting Minutes: 2.4mR International Class Association Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025

Date: February 7, 2026 **Time:** Commenced at approximately 3:00 PM CET (duration: approximately 3.5 hours) **Location:** Virtual meeting via Zoom **Chair:** John Seepe (Secretary, 2.4mR International Class Association) **Recorder:** John Seepe (minutes to be reviewed by Rikard and Siobhan)

Attendees

The meeting achieved quorum with 33 out of 34 votes represented, accounting for 433 members across National Class Associations (NCAs). New Zealand was unable to attend.

Apologies were noted for absences due to scheduling conflicts or technical issues. Hasse (Sweden) experienced connection problems and did not cast a vote in the presidential election till late.

1. Opening and Technical Check

The meeting commenced with a technical check to ensure audio and connectivity for all participants. Issues were resolved for Maria and Matti. Volunteers were solicited for reviewing the minutes, with Rikard and Siobhan agreeing to assist. The agenda was adopted without objection.

2. President's Annual Report

Heiko Kroger presented the 2025 annual report, highlighting a strong performance comparable to pre-2025 levels. Key points included:

- Successful World Championships in Italy, despite high entry fees, with appreciation extended to the Italian organizers, Technical Committee (TC), and Executive Committee (EC).
- Excitement for the upcoming Dutch venue (Sneek), noting advanced preparations.
- Gratitude to Paul Schroeder for interim contributions and Keith Gordon for over a decade of TC support and measurement expertise.
- Recognition of Frank's survey on international participation, which fostered collaboration among NCAs and sailors.
- Financial stability with significant funds available, encouraging NCAs to propose development projects.
- Ongoing negotiations with World Sailing on a para-sailing contract, emphasizing the class's red line against relinquishing control. The class remains open to collaboration but rejects the current draft.

No questions were raised, and the report was accepted.

3. Financial Report and 2025 Accounts

Paul Schroeder provided a financial overview, aligning with prior years:

- Reduced spending on photos from the World Championships, with some carryover.
- Website design costs covered three prior years, with an expected bill for two years in 2026.
- Funds increased by €1,540.91, resulting in a balance of €52,581.99.
- Transfer of the UK-based euro account to Norway completed.

John Seepe thanked Paul for his professional service. Questions included clarification on plaque sales (linked to new boats built) and grants to NCAs (€2,000 awarded; details in EC minutes). The accounts were accepted unanimously.

4. Technical Committee (TC) Report

Peter Russell presented the TC report:

- Communications with World Sailing on rule changes, including unlimited upper batten length rule change.
- 26 buoyancy certifiers accredited worldwide for buoyancy checks essential for boating safety.
- Agreements with boat builders (Super 3 and Ontario Yachts); reviewing application from Spain.
- Documentation for Lake Garda World Championship; Notice of Race published for Sneek World Championship.
- Measurement Manual review ongoing, including a measurement training video with Norway.
- Addressed class rule questions and issued a safety notice on lifting eye failures.

Discussion emphasized improved communication to individual members via NCAs. The report was accepted.

5. TC Proposals and Rule Amendments

Several proposals were discussed and voted on:

- **Ballast Definition (Item 6):** Approved unanimously to increase maximum ballast pieces from 16 to 18 for weight correction.
- **NOD Compartment (Item 7):** Withdrawn due to grandfathering concerns.
- **Materials (Item 8):** Approved unanimously to allow stainless steel reinforcement plates under 2.4 MR rules.

- **Towing Fittings (Item 9):** Approved unanimously to require fittings accommodating 12mm towing ropes for safety.
- **Rule Corrections (Item 10):** Approved unanimously to delete omitted Rule 13.1D and align documents.
- **Hull Definition (Item 11/12):** Supported in principle; TC to collaborate with World Sailing to exclude thwart/dashboard from hull definition. Approved unanimously.

6. World Sailing Contract Discussion (Item 13)

Extensive discussion on World Sailing's para-sailing contract:

- Concerns included loss of class control, event location mandates, sailor exclusions, and lack of Paralympic guarantees.
- Consensus to reject the current contract but maintain dialogue. Proposal to offer the NOD class for Paralympic inclusion while preserving open 2.4 MR events.
- Suggestion to coordinate with Hansa and RS Venture classes for stronger negotiation.
- No motion to sign; EC to continue constructive engagement.

7. Sail Number System Proposal (Item 14)

Loic proposed unifying sail numbers with hull numbers. Discussion highlighted challenges with dual systems (personal vs. boat numbers), costs, and sailor preferences. Proposal withdrawn; referred to TC for review of ideas such as bow numbers among other things.

8. Constitutional Amendment Proposal (Item 15)

Proposal to require nominee statements of intent. Agreed to develop a standardized template instead of amending the constitution. Loic to collaborate with EC on a form for future elections.

9. Election of Officers (Item 16)

- **President:** Heiko Kroger re-elected (22 votes) over Loic (7 votes). Sweden's 2 votes received late due to technical issues.
- **TC Members:** Bruce Miller, Jon Bjørklund, Rikard Bjurström, and Peter Russell approved unanimously. Acknowledgment of Keith Gordon and Stellan Berlin's departures; welcome to Jon who has been an observer.

10. Survey on International Participation (Item 17)

Frank presented survey results from 196 respondents across 10 NCAs:

- Strong international participation already exists; support for pragmatic European cooperation (e.g., Euro Cup).
- Emphasis on feasibility, calendars, and ICA/NCA coordination. No mandate for structural changes; recommendation for a working group.

Discussion encouraged ongoing NCA dialogue, calendar coordination, and inclusion of non-European perspectives.

11. 2027 World Championships Bid (Norway)

Norway's bid approved unanimously, with dates to be confirmed (August/September 2027).

12. EC Work Items for 2026 (Item 18)

Approved unanimously: Focus on video documentation, boat builders, legal registration in EU, communications, and continental championships.

13. Proposed Budget for 2026 (Item 19)

Approved unanimously with clarification on closing balance (€1,000 decrease) and flexibility for grants (€5,000 allocated). NCA fees remain €10 per member.

14. NCA Annual Reports

NCAs encouraged to submit one-page reports annually. Appreciation for submissions, including Australia's detailed report.

15. Other Business

- Updates on boat building (Spain, Ontario Yachts, France). TC to provide support.
- Invitation to Ukrainian sailors and potential NCA formation.
- Restart of Marketing Committee; Loic to participate with resources.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 PM CET on a motion by Heiko, seconded by John Seepe, and approved unanimously.

Action Items

- **Rikard and Siobhan:** Review meeting minutes.
- **Peter Russell/TC:** Resolve hull component classification with World Sailing.
- **Loic/EC:** Develop nominee information template.
- **Frank/Interested Parties:** Form working group for European Cup.
- **Loic/European NCAs:** Coordinate 2027 regatta calendars.
- **EC:** Continue World Sailing dialogue; convene special meeting if needed.
- **EC:** Advance EU legal registration.
- **Bruce/TC:** Support new boat builders with scans and guidance.
- **All NCAs:** Submit annual reports; apply for grants via EC/TC minutes.
- **Michael/EC:** Clarify 2026 budget figures and distribute.
- **Loic/EC:** Contribute to Marketing Committee.

- **Thomas/TC:** Measure boats in France (mid-March).
- **European NCAs:** Advance Euro Cup dialogue.
- **John/EC:** Finalize and send 2026 budget; monitor Sweden's vote.
- **All NCAs:** Invite Ukrainian sailors; provide feedback on Euro Cup.

Minutes prepared by John Seepe. Approved revisions to be incorporated post-review.