

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes: June 2, 2025

Attendees: Heiko, Niko, Bruce, Mikael, John, Fia (Absent)

Meeting Overview

The 2.4mR International Class Association (ICA) Executive Committee convened via Zoom on June 2, 2025, to address technical updates, boat production, financial challenges, event planning, and communication strategies. The meeting reflected a mix of frustration over ongoing issues and optimism about improving class participation and governance.

Agenda Items and Key Discussions

1. Technical Committee (TC) Updates and Publications

- **Discussion:** Bruce reported on recent TC activities, including advice publications on the ICA website, such as main sail changes and class rule updates. Concerns were raised about production issues and ensuring accuracy in published materials. The next TC meeting was scheduled for June 25, 2025.
- **Key Points:** Emphasis on resolving measurement issues and ensuring compliance with class rules.

2. Boat Building and Measurement Issues

- **Discussion:** The committee addressed challenges with boat production, notably in Argentina where they potentially could be using outdated molds. Bruce noted orders for five masts from Super Sparse and plans to visit Ontario yachts for measurement tasks. John Seepe mentioned having a spare mast available.
- **Key Points:** Need to verify current production through photos and integrate builders into ICA processes to maintain class standards.

3. Banking and Financial Administration Challenges

- **Discussion:** John Seepe highlighted significant US banking issues, including the loss of the class's bank account due to incorporation and nonprofit status problems dating back to 2002 or 2012. Recent progress with IRS nonprofit status was noted, but document corrections could take up to eight weeks. In the UK, similar banking challenges were discussed, with Heiko suggesting consulting external experts or AI tools like ChatGPT for advice. Paul and Mikael (Director of Finance) were actively working on solutions.
- **Key Points:** Frustration over bureaucratic delays, with a cautious approach to await Paul's proposals before deciding further actions.

4. Upcoming Events: Worlds and Para Worlds in the Netherlands

- **Discussion:** The committee discussed hosting the 2026 World Championships and Para Worlds simultaneously in the Netherlands. Coordination with Netherlands and World Sailing was deemed necessary. Norway's bid for the following year's European Championship was also mentioned, with plans to use the current Notice of Race (NoR) as a template.
- **Key Points:** Consensus to approve simultaneous events, with action items assigned for further planning.

5. Entry Fees and Regatta Logistics for Kiel

- **Discussion:** High entry fees for the Kiel regatta (initially 235 euros) were criticized for deterring participation, leading to a decision to reduce them to 175 euros, aligning with other single-handed classes. Refunds were planned for those who paid the higher fee. Discussions also covered fleet division for large regattas (e.g., Netherlands Worlds) if participation exceeds 60 boats, with a preference for single fleets but openness to member feedback via a Facebook poll.
- **Key Points:** Fee reduction aimed to boost participation, with logistical planning for large events ongoing.

6. Communication and Social Media Issues

- **Discussion:** Heiko expressed concerns about class image and professional communication were raised, alongside personal updates.
- **Key Points:** Need for better social media management and professional content to enhance class visibility.

7. General Class Rule Updates and Procedural Clean-up

- **Discussion:** The committee reviewed course design issues, such as optional windward/leeward legs and finish line configurations, but deferred decisions until the NoR is posted. The importance of timely publication of the NoR and addressing issues post-publication was emphasized.
- **Key Points:** Focus on streamlining processes and ensuring timely communication to avoid delays.

Decisions Made

Decision	Description
Kiel Entry Fee Reduction	Reduced entry fee from 235 euros to 175 euros, with refunds for prior payers, to align with other single-handed classes and boost participation.

Netherlands Worlds and Para Worlds	Consensus to approve simultaneous hosting of the 2026 World Championships and Para Worlds in the Netherlands, pending further coordination.
Notice of Race (NoR) Publication	Agreed to post the NoR for upcoming events immediately, addressing any issues post-publication to avoid delays.
Banking Strategy	Decided to await Paul's banking solution proposals before taking further action, with exploration of external advice for UK banking issues.

Action Items Assigned

Assignee	Action Item
Heiko/Bruce	Contact Maria to discuss ideas for the 2026 Worlds and Para Worlds and follow up with Hannah Stodell for coordination.
John Seepe	Respond promptly to communications (e.g., Italy's email) and monitor US banking issues, awaiting IRS document corrections.
Mikael (Director of Finance)	Continue working on banking solutions, potentially consulting UK banking contacts or AI tools like ChatGPT.
Committee Members	Poll members via the ICA's Facebook page to gauge preferences.

Next Meeting

Date: July 7, 2025