

International 2.4mR Class Association Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 8, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: Virtual

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- **Attendees:** Heiko Kröger, Niko Salomaa, Mikael Bekkevold, John Seepe, Bruce Millar

• **Absent:** Fia Fjelddahl

1. Call to Order

John Seepe called the meeting to order and initiated discussions by referencing the recently distributed Technical Committee (TC) minutes.

2. Technical Committee Updates

- The TC minutes were reviewed, with no groundbreaking items noted. Ongoing efforts focus on clarifying safety-related matters, such as tow line specifications and fittings to accommodate larger lines (e.g., beyond 5mm), prompted by incidents like the one in Melbourne.
- Emphasis was placed on revising presentations to ensure compatibility with various rescue boat lines, including spectra loops and shackles.
- Concerns were raised regarding the Sailing Instructions (SIs) for the upcoming World Championship. Peter has requested further input for review by the TC.
- Preparations for the 2026 World Championship in the Netherlands are progressing well, with timelines responsive (e.g., Notice of Race expected by early November). This advance notice facilitates TC reviews without urgency.
- A request was made for the Executive Committee (EC) to probe Brian Harding further on boat production and promotion, as reports indicate used boats are being sold but no new ones. This is seen as essential for class promotion.
- AGM preparations were discussed, with dates set for February 13, 2026. The EC was encouraged to submit any rule change requests to the TC in advance.
- Plans for an informal forum at the upcoming World Championship were endorsed to discuss matters with attendees.

3. Discussions with World Sailing and Para Sailing

- Updates were provided on interactions with World Sailing, including a recent meeting and a planned follow-up. Topics included the new Para Sailing

Committee structure, with concerns about its effectiveness in advancing Paralympic reinstatement.

- Challenges in achieving 35 participating nations for international events were highlighted, with funding cuts (e.g., in Germany) noted as barriers.
- Proposals for inclusive sailing at the Olympic Games were explored, suggesting direct engagement with the IOC rather than the IPC to leverage sailing's adaptability and address IOC pressures for inclusivity.
- Historical resistance (e.g., from South American countries during Pan Am Games attempts) was recalled.
- Data collection for World Sailing was discussed, including sailor IDs and disability status for regattas over the past five years. A suggestion from years prior for World Sailing to provide a standardized scoring program was reiterated but noted as unimplemented.
- Details from a meeting with Hannah (World Sailing) focused on combined open and para events (e.g., in Poland 2027). Concerns included high costs, lack of socialization typical in class events, and the need for low entry fees with evening programs.
- The possibility of integrating the class World Championship into World Sailing's inclusive events was debated, with potential benefits (e.g., provided officials) but drawbacks (e.g., loss of control, unsuitable venues for growth).
- Proposed race format changes (e.g., short races under 25 minutes for camera-friendliness) were critiqued as detrimental to participation and sailor satisfaction. This would require AGM approval, not EC decision alone.

4. Future World Championships

- Interest from Norway for 2027 and Australia for 2028 was noted. Support was expressed for hosting events outside Europe to promote international growth, even with potentially lower participation due to distance.
- Suggestions included class assistance with shipping (e.g., containers from Europe) to offset costs.
- Emphasis on selecting venues that foster fleet expansion and participation, with a preference for Central Europe post-COVID but openness to global sites.

5. Funding and Promotion Requests

- A request from the Dutch NCA for 500 euros for video promotion was reviewed and supported by the TC for alignment with promotional goals.

- Clarification is needed on whether this is for pre-Worlds promotion (e.g., at Dutch Nationals in Sneek) or during the 2026 Worlds. Heiko agreed to discuss with Frank and report back.
- The EC voted in favor of approving the funds, pending confirmation of purpose.

6. Boat Production and Technical Issues

- Updates on Ontario Yachts' new boat prototypes: The first is nearing completion, with testing planned. Delays due to other projects were noted, but confidence in meeting weight specifications was expressed.
- Plans for measurement and tank testing in Toronto were outlined, involving Bruce Millar, John Finch, and others.
- Communication challenges with Ontario Yachts were acknowledged, with commitments to improve engagement.
- Issues with Super 3 boats: Two incidents of boats dropping were reported (one in Germany involving Ulli are unclear, potentially operator error or design flaws. Further inquiry with Brian Harding was tasked to Peter Russell for clarification.
- Rudder production and pricing from Ontario Yachts were discussed as ongoing needs.

7. Class Administration and NCA Development

- Outreach to emerging NCAs: An email from Turkey (five boats) was responded to, encouraging NCA formation. No reply yet; follow-up planned. Similar for Argentina (two months without response).
- Simplified NCA setup was emphasized: Select a president, provide contact info, pay 10 euros per member dues.
- Bank account options: Mikael is looking in to a possible solution, with updates expected soon from him.
- Documentation updates for 2027 World's: Norwegian NCA has to complete internal review and will submit to the international board when they are happy.
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- Promotion ideas: Encourage NCAs to submit national championship summaries (results, conditions, etc.) for the class website to enhance visibility and support ranking efforts.
- Frustrations with the 2025 World Championship organization in Garda, Italy, were expressed, noting lack of NCA involvement and host club inflexibility.

Logistics (e.g., boat entry dates) were clarified, with arrivals varying (e.g., boats on the 5th).

8. Other Matters

- Robotic marks evaluation: Positive feedback from recent use in Victoria, BC, with reports ongoing.
- Upcoming events: Promotion for 2026 Canadian/North American Championships in Victoria (three-day format, billeting available).
- Meeting with Hannah: Scheduled soon, with John Seepe and Heiko to participate and provide a summary to the EC.
- No October meeting planned due to the World Championship; next after Worlds.

9. Action Items

- Heiko: Clarify Dutch 500 euros request with Frank and report back.
- John Seepe: Follow up with Turkey and Argentina on NCA formation; schedule Hannah meeting and provide summary; reach out to Tom on Garda logistics; set AGM schedule and request NCA event dates for the class calendar.
- Peter Russell: Inquire with Brian Harding on Super 3 incidents.
- Michael: Share updates on Norwegian bank account feasibility as received.
- All NCAs: Submit national championship summaries for class website.
- EC: Prepare for informal discussions at Garda Worlds.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at an unspecified time, with appreciation expressed to attendees. The next formal meeting will occur after the 2025 World Championship.