EC Meeting Minutes

Date: January 7, 2026 **Time:** 12:02 PM (Duration: 40:54 minutes) **Location:** Virtual (via Zoom, Meeting ID: 821 0274 7606) **Attendees:**

- John Seepe (Secretary)
- Bruce Millar (TC Representative)
- Heiko Kröger (President)
- Fia (Vice-President)
- Niko (Director)
- Michael (noted as absent due to weather during travel)

Purpose: The meeting addressed ongoing class activities, including boat measurements at Ontario Yachts, preparations for the Annual General Meeting (AGM), budget concerns, and significant discussions on the World Sailing contract for potential inclusion in future Paralympic Games. The session was kept concise due to John Seepe's illness following a cruise.

1. Opening and Approval of Previous Minutes

- The meeting commenced with confirmation of the previous minutes, which had been distributed a month prior. No objections were raised within the specified timeframe, and they were deemed approved.
- John Seepe noted his recent illness (high temperature and cough) from cruise exposure, and the group agreed to proceed efficiently.

2. Ontario Yachts Progress Review

- Bruce Millar provided an update on the measurement and tank testing preparations for the 2.4mR / 2.4 NOD boats at Ontario Yachts. The team, including Bruce Millar (OM) John Finch (OM), David Foscarini (IM), David Sprague (IM), and possibly Bill Abbott (IM), plans to conduct measurements over four days starting January 15/26.
- Boat #1 was launched in December but has seen limited sailing due to winter conditions in Ontario. Boat #2 shows refinements, meeting weight targets (181 kg plus 2 kg corrector).
- Both boats are scheduled to arrive in Florida in February for continued on the water testing.
- Discussions with Ontario Yachts will cover marketing, pricing, and next steps post-measurement.

- John Seepe confirmed connecting Andrew (from Ontario Yachts) with World Sailing for plaque ordering. Plaques had been ordered but not received; if delayed, plaque numbers will be obtained directly to proceed with measurements.
- John Finch reported positively on the boats' compliance with the construction manual.

3. AGM Preparations and Related Matters

- John Seepe confirmed distribution of the AGM package elements to EC and TC members, including secondary emails. Bruce Millar requested a resend to his email (bruce.millar@hotmail.com), which was done.
- The entire EC is invited to observe the AGM on February 7, 2026.
- Budget discussions included allocations for future IMS/OMS support (e.g., for measurers like Thomas) and a follow-up on the approved 600 euros for travel support to measures at Ontario Yachts. Payment has been delayed due to bank account transitions; it will be sent to Michael.
- Heiko Kröger will prepare the annual president's report, incorporating an estimate for Ontario Yachts' pricing if final figures are unavailable by month-end.
- No major updates from prior EC minutes; focus remains on AGM readiness and the Norway submission.

4. World Sailing Contract Concerns and Paralympic Inclusion

- The primary discussion centered on the draft World Sailing contract for the 2.4mR class's potential role in inclusive worlds and the 2032 Brisbane Paralympic Games.
- Heiko Kröger presented a short analysis, highlighting that the contract is not mutually beneficial, potentially risking the class's survival by alienating three-quarters of sailors through strict OD (One Design) requirements. He estimated a low (5% or less) chance of selection as Paralympic equipment, citing lack of communication from Hannah (World Sailing representative) and unresolved issues from the Oman sailors' forum.
- Concerns included: monopoly builder restrictions (e.g., for RS Venture), high administrative workload (requiring half/full-time EC roles), loss of non-OD boats for non-disabled sailors, and misalignment with IPC demands versus class realities.
- John Seepe agreed, noting the contract's harsh terms and minimal upside, based on feedback from Oman (poor performance of Hansa and RS classes).

He described World Sailing's bid to IPC as overly optimistic ("candy-coated") without addressing class concerns.

- Fia emphasized that IPC requirements drive the terms, not World Sailing's preferences, and suggested allocating AGM time (e.g., one hour) for discussion with Hannah invited. She proposed appointing a dedicated World Sailing contact (not Hannah, due to her workload) and noted alignment with Hansa class's stronger opposition (refusing Portugal events).
- Niko expressed frustration with the negative tone but acknowledged shared concerns across classes. He suggested creating a separate OD class for World Sailing events to preserve the existing 2.4mR structure.
- Consensus: Draft a letter to Hannah outlining concerns, risks, and solutions (e.g., OD class for inclusive worlds, compromises for non-OD participation). Share with NCAs (National Class Associations) post-internal review, with instructions to avoid public discussion (e.g., on social media). Invite World Sailing to the AGM for 30 minutes.
- Background: The class was included in World Sailing's IPC bid but selection is uncertain. Other classes (Hansa, RS Venture) face similar issues, with Hansa more resistant and RS more compliant but challenged by monopoly rules.
- Decision: Proceed cautiously; the contract as-is is unworkable and could destroy 40 years of class development.

Next Steps and Action Items

Action Item	**Responsible**	**Deadline**
Travel to Ontario Yachts for measurements and tank testing; prepare report for TC.	Bruce Millar	By January 21 TC meeting.
Ensure Ontario Yachts receives World Sailing plaques/numbers; notify if delayed.	Bruce Millar / John Seepe	Before measurements start.
Resend AGM package elements to Bruce Millar and others as needed.	John Seepe	Immediate.
Draft letter to Hannah/World Sailing on contract concerns and solutions; share for input.	Heiko Kröger / John Seepe	This week or next.
Prepare and send background info/ bullet points on concerns to NCAs.	Heiko Kröger	After internal review; in last-minute AGM package.

Action Item	Responsible	Deadline
Prepare annual president's report for AGM package.	Heiko Kröger	Next few days.
Contact Hansa class president for alignment on contract position; report back.	Fia	Post-meeting.
Schedule next EC meeting (AGM prep).	John Seepe	Immediate (calendar invite).

Next Meeting

- February 2, 2026 (focused on AGM discussions and preparations).

Adjournment: The meeting concluded at approximately 12:43 PM, with appreciation for inputs despite illnesses and time constraints.