



MAGAZINE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DN ICE YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION

RUNNER TRACKS

DECEMBER 2020

PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS OR PLANS
WESTERN CHALLENGE: BACK TO THE BASICS
EUROPEAN SECRETARIES PROPOSALS

CONTENT

Cover Photo: Kat Barta sails her vintage DN for the first time on Lake Christina in Minnesota.
Photo Credit: Kevin Barta



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RUNNER TRACKS is edited by IDNIYRA Secretary Deb Whitehorse

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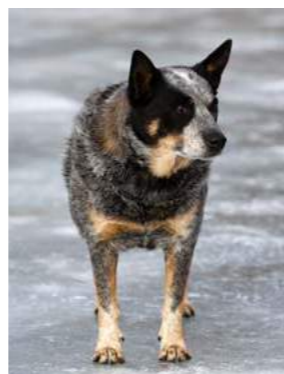
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Photo: Kevin Barta

COMMODORE'S MUSINGS

FROM THE COMMODORE, ON PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
WARREN NETHERCOTE KC3786, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

It is a strange beginning to the 2021 iceboating season. With the second wave of COVID proving as bad or worse than the first wave we are looking at a winter without a Gold Cup or a North American Championship. But that does not mean we can't go iceboating, albeit much closer to home than last year's trek to Montana.

In late November the Governing Committee cancelled the Gold Cup and the North American Championships. It was simply unfair to hold the events when many sailors would be unable to attend due to international, national, state or provincial travel and public health regulations. We had planned to make this decision in a phased manner, with a decision on the North American Championships following several weeks after our decision to cancel the Gold Cup, but with the Canada-US border closure in effect until at least December 21st the writing was on the wall.

The Governing Committee is looking at ways to hold a non-ranking American Championship during the same time frame as the cancelled Gold Cup and North American Championships. It would be a rather more informal event than the one it replaces. There may be a corresponding Canadian Championship at the same time, or perhaps later due to inter-provincial quarantine requirements. A good weekend of sailing on Lake Christina at the beginning of December will give us some useful guidance for regatta organization in these times.

Without a Gold Cup or North American Championship, we will not have a 2021 Annual Meeting. Some people won't miss 'the annual argument,' but many of us will. It is an opportunity for the Governing Committee to update the members, and for members to provide feedback to the Governing Committee. It is an opportunity for members to hold the Governing Committee to account. ARTICLE VIII of our Constitution allows for Special Meetings and the wording suggests that they may be electronic. We are investigating the possibility of offering the membership a Zoom

meeting in the February or March time frame so that an opportunity for exchange is not lost.

We recently held an on-line ballot with three questions, two of which passed and will become effective for the 2022 season. It was our fifth electronic ballot, but our first in an important way. It was a largely accidental milestone because IDNIYRA EU had a new webmaster, so to reduce his workload Europe sent us their voters list and we ran a common electronic ballot for IDNIYRA and IDNIYRA EU members. There was no need for manual combination of results after the ballot, yet the software allowed us to report continental ballot results separately as well as combined. The ballot could and should have been 'bigger.' The IDNIYRA EU National Secretaries had supported four proposals for Technical Specifications changes but the proposals were not delivered to the Technical Committee in time for them to adequately address uncertainties in the proposals. We will see these missing proposals again on a future ballot.

Last Spring we approved changes to our Constitution and By-laws to eliminate redundancies that arose after adoption of the EPIC Agreement and the Regatta Management Agreement. Now we need to add something back.

Continued next page



Photo: Gretchen Dorian

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The EPIC Agreement gives the Governing Committees and the Technical Committee authority to submit proposals to change the OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS but is silent on how members should make submissions. Elsewhere in this Runner Tracks you will find a proposal which restores our past practice of presenting ID-NIYRA member proposals to the Annual Meeting for member support before submitting them to the Technical Committee and a class vote.

We also have a proposal for an OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS change from Chad Atkins (US 4487), which is again published in this Runner Tracks. Chad notes that scorers tend to use sail numbers rather than hull numbers and, because of problems with mismatching numbers on borrowed or chartered DNS, proposes that hull numbering be optional rather than mandatory.

Stay safe and remember that iceboating is a great activity in these COVID times. We do it outdoors, we wear face coverings, and we social distance: if we avoid collisions, we stay at least eight feet apart!

Warren Nethercote, KC 3786
Commodore IDNIYRA



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GOLD CUP & NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
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idniyra.org



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MEMBER PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS OR PLANS

BY WARREN NETHERCOTE KC3786

ARTICLE XI of the IDNIYRA Constitution describes the approval requirements for changes to IDNIYRA governing documents, but does not describe process:

Amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws, and changes to the Official Specifications or the Racing Rules, may be made only after approval of the membership by electronic vote, with ballots being sent to an email address provided by the member. A two-thirds majority of the votes cast is required. For changes to the Specifications and their effective date, refer to the EPIC Agreement.

Article VII of the EPIC Agreement says:

Proposals to change the OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS or OFFICIAL PLANS may be made by either the CGG or the TC. All proposal submissions should be written in specification language as it would appear in the OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS. The governing documents of the respective continent shall describe how proposals shall be submitted to the CGG (in this case, the IDNIYRA Governing Committee).

Neither the IDNIYRA Constitution nor the By-laws describe "how proposals shall be submitted." It is proposed that a second paragraph be added to Article XI of the IDNIYRA Constitution so that process is described, as follows:

Active members of IDNIYRA may submit proposals for changes to the OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS or the OFFICIAL PLANS by preparing them in accordance with ARTICLE II of the EPIC Agreement and submitting them in writing (preferably electronically) to the Governing Committee via the IDNIYRA Executive Secretary (or in his/her absence the IDNIYRA Secretary) a minimum of 60 days before the Annual Meeting. The Ex-

ecutive Secretary (or Secretary) shall publish proposals at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting to allow time for members to review proposals before the Annual Meeting. To be referred to the Technical Committee a proposal must receive the approval of two-thirds of those attending the Annual Meeting who are eligible to vote. A proposal rejected by the members at an Annual Meeting shall not be re-submitted for one year. Should an Annual Meeting not be held, the Governing Committee may refer proposals scheduled for consideration at that meeting directly to the Technical Committee without member approval.

This proposal restores the IDNIYRA membership's role in vetting proposals for OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS changes submitted by IDNIYRA members. It ensures that proposed changes to the OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS are likely to receive member support before investing time and resources of the Technical Committee or administering an electronic ballot of the full membership. This proposal does not apply to IDNIYRA EU processes or members.

A typical schedule for a proposal might be as follows:

- October, submission of proposal
- Early December, publication of proposal
- Third week of January, member support for proposal at Annual Meeting
- End of January, proposal forwarded to Technical Committee
- Circa September 1st, TC sends final proposal to Governing Committees (both NA and EU)
- Circa October 1st, Proposal goes to members by electronic ballot
- If proposal is approved by electronic ballot, OFFICIAL SPECIFICATIONS change effective May 31st.

In a related matter, Article VIII (MEETING AND QUORUM) of the IDNIYRA Constitution currently requires that proposals to the Annual Meeting be submitted "in writing ninety (90) days prior to the meeting." This 90-day lead time is presumably based upon paper-based Runner Tracks and communications by mail. The Governing Committee is proposing that members consider changing this to "in writing sixty (60) days prior to the meeting" which is comfortably adequate in the context of our current internet-based communications with members.



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PROPOSAL TO AMEND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION A30, FUSELAGE NUMBERS

Chad Atkins (US 4487) has proposed an amendment to OFFICIAL SPECIFICATION A30, governing national letters and sail numbers on the fuselages.

Wording from the 2020 yearbook:

A30. National letter and sail number shall be affixed to each side of the fuselage below the mast stepping point. Color shall contrast with the fuselage and each letter and number shall be a minimum of 5.5 inches (140 mm) high and 0.7874 inches (20 mm) wide

Change wording to:

A30. National letter and sail number is optional and may be affixed to each side of the fuselage below the mast stepping point. If a national sail letter and sail number are affixed to the fuselage, the colour shall contrast with the fuselage and the recommended size of each letter and number is 5.5 inches (140 mm) high and 0.79 inches (20 mm) wide. National letters and sail numbers affixed to the fuselage should match those on the sails, except for boats loaned or chartered for a regatta.

Reasoning:

Scorers and Race Committee personnel do not use these hull identification graphics very often for lap management, scoring or collision assessment as originally intended. Also as we saw at the 2019 GC Rule A30 currently makes lending equipment to sailors more difficult with possible SI amendments needed from the OA. The proposed number sizing is 'recommended' so that variances in size of optional numbers would not be subject to protest.



Winning the 2019 Gold Cup in a borrowed boat.
Photo: Catherine E. Firmbach

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BACK TO THE BASICS

MINNESOTA'S WESTERN CHALLENGE RETURNS TO ITS ROOTS

By Deb Whitehorse US2366

By Ron Howard



Brian Hearn US5652 and Ben Whitman US5603
Photo: J. H. Peterson "Shooting the Breeze"

The Minnesota sailors who organize the Western Challenge resolved a complicated situation by going back to the basics. If you are new to the DN class, the Western Challenge began over 20 years ago. A group of Minnesota DN sailors, including John Dennis US4691, Mark "Doctor" Christensen US4824, and Mark Kiefer US4695, found early December ice and invited their friends worldwide to join them for three days of scrub racing. This year's Western Challenge took place on Lake Christina near Ashby, Minnesota on December 4-6, 2020.

Iceboaters must accept uncertainty. Assessing conditions at the last minute, understanding that the wind might not blow as forecasted, a crack may develop, or the landing may heave are familiar parts of the sport. The challenges added by the pandemic brought the Western Challenge back to its original format. Just like in the earlier days of the Western challenge, there was no scoring or tabulating. However, this year, there was no scoring to comply with Minnesota's COVID19 orders by keeping it a recreational event rather than a competition.

Continued next page



Eric Smith US2500
Photo: J. H. Peterson "Shooting the Breeze"

Many things remained the same, including the ice scouts network's valuable assistance, particularly Dirk Siems, who lives near Lake Christina. Anxious Facebookers tuned in to watch Dirk's live video feeds where he fired up his battery-powered drill for ice checks, while we hoped the auger would meet the resistance of ice suitable for DN sailing.

After a brief meeting in the pits Saturday morning, sailors chose to sail in either the A or B fleet. There were no starting blocks, scoring sheets, or the usual scoring implements. Mike Bloom set up a short course, and the fleets voted to take two laps in each "non-race." The two-lap format was helpful for the B fleet. It was relatively easy for the less experienced sailors to get around the course in the light air. No starting blocks meant that Pat Heppert and I stood like scarecrows to help line up the boats.

The two-lap roundings were moving too efficiently, and sailors asked for more time between starts so that they could change equipment or offer advice to B fleet sailors. The motorized kick sleds built by Daniel Hearn and Jeff Russell made their debut.

The sleds performed like workhorses, ferrying spectators and photographers, fetching runners, and taking Pat out to the course for quick mark changes.



Tim Oelschlager US5050 Photo: Kevin Barta



Daniel Hearn US5352 tests out a motorized kick-sled to push Pat Heppert in his C Class Skeeter on Lake Christina.

As the sky melted into pinks and reds, we lingered longer than usual on the high bank enjoying grilled hotdogs and recounting the days sailing with friends. Saturday was the best day this year. Pea soup fog blanketed the ice on Sunday morning, and most of us were on the road home by noon.

I didn't keep track of the number of starts. Someone said four in each fleet, and that sounds like a good number. Many have asked where we posted the 2020 Western Challenge results. I'm happy to report there were no results other than the smiles from a relaxing day on the ice.



Photo: Kevin Barta



*"Thank you Jim Rylander, Ashby, Minnesota land owner who allows us to use his property as a launch site; Dirk Siems, chief ice scout and DN ice sailor, Ottertail, Minnesota; Mike Risbrudt, ice scout of Christina for 12 years, of Ashby, Minnesota. Big thanks to all the racers who attended and practiced good masking and social distance. It is proof that an iceboat get together can happen during pandemic."
Mike Miller US5369*

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IDNIYRA EUROPE

MEETING MINUTES

INTERNATIONAL DN ICE YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION EUROPE
IDNIYRA EUROPE - EISSEGELVERBAND EUROPA
MINUTES AND DECISIONS OF AUTUMN NATIONAL SECRETARIES' MEETING
HELD: ONLINE VIA SKYPE, ON THE 3RD OCTOBER 2020 (10.00-13.30 CEST)

Attendance list

Present:

IDNIYRA Europe Executive Board

Commodore	Attila Pataky
Treasurer	Jerzy Henke
Junior Programme Manager	Stan Macur
Secretary	Attila Pataki, Jr.

National Secretaries

Austria	Walter Koelbl
Belarus	Ivan Fershal
Finland	Timo Caravitis
Hungary	Attila Pataki, Jr.
Netherlands	Hennie van den Brink
Poland	Rafal Sielicki(joined: 12:00)
Sweden	Richard Gustring
Switzerland	Ambroise Johnson
United Kingdom	David Howlett

Also present:

Warren Nethercote	Commodore IDNIYRA-NA
Debra Whitehorse	Secretary IDNIYRA-NA
Ambroise Johnson	Auditor
Peter Uhlmann	Auditor
Tomasz Zakrzewski	Sponsorship Workgroup (left: 12:00)
Mihkel Kosk	Vice-Commodore nominee

Proxy votes:

Denmark	represented by Richard Gustring
Germany	represented by Richard Gustring
France	represented by Attila Pataki, Jr.

Apologies were received from representatives of Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia and vice-commodore candidates Peter Hamrák and Jerzy Sukow.

Agenda:

1. Ascertainment of Quorum
2. Opening Remarks
3. Approval of the Minutes of the National Secretaries' Meeting of April 2020 (Online)
4. Matters Arising from Topic 3 not covered by this Agenda
5. Financial Report 2019/2020 & Report of the Auditors
6. Matters Arising from the decisions made on the Spring Meeting, presentation of progress of Workgroups and Individuals:
 - a. International Race Committee on individual contracts with the members - Progress Report
 - b. Media and Communication Workgroup (WG1) - Progress Report
 - c. Event Sponsoring Workgroup (WG2) - Progress Report
 - d. Professional Meteorologist one week ahead and during the WC/EC - Progress Report
 - e. Paid Jury Chairman during the events - Progress Report
 - f. Race equipment - Progress Report

Continued next page

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7. COVID-19 Action Plan

8. Discharge of the Board of Officers

9. Election of IDNIYRA - Europe Officers (for 2 year period):

- a. Commodore
- b. Vice-Commodore
- c. Treasurer
- d. Auditor 1
- e. Auditor 2

10. Determination of contributions to the IDNIYRA - Europe and event entry fees

11. Budget 2020/2021

12. Constitution change

13. Organisation Rules change

14. Other Business

Topic 1 Ascertainment of a Quorum (Day 1)

It was confirmed that the invitation to the Annual meeting was issued in time and a quorum of 7 National Secretaries was present. Poland joined-in later. Attendance list of the meeting was collected by the Secretary.

Topic 2 Opening remarks

The Commodore opened the meeting with a welcome to all present. He noted that some topics were postponed in the spring to the current meeting and expressed his hopes of an in-person reunion once the COVID-19 related travel restrictions are lifted.

The agenda of the meeting was accepted unanimously.

Topic 3 Approval of the Minutes of National Secretaries' Meeting held in April 2020 online.

The Minutes of the previous meetings were made accessible to the attendees at the time of the invitation »» See Attachments

The Minutes of the 2020 Spring Online National Secretaries' Meeting are AGREED and Approved by unanimous Vote.

Topic 4 Matters Arising from Topic 3 not covered by this Agenda

NA Commodore Warren Nethercote expressed the need for a final edit on the wording for the 2020 Ballot on part of the European Secretary. This was agreed bilaterally. No decision was required on part of the national secretaries.

Topic 5 Financial Report & Auditor's Report

The Treasurer published Financial Report and Auditors' Reports were uploaded and accessible before the meeting »» See Attachments.

The Treasurer presented the Financial Report for 2019/2020.

The following observations were made by the auditors:

1. The accounts should arrive at least 2 weeks before the date of the AGM so that the auditors have time



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to analyse them and to ask/receive questions/answers.

2. The treasurer should provide ex officio explanations on certain amounts and better document the transactions as the wording is not always sufficient for understanding. These explanations should then accompany the minutes of the AGM.

3. They also recommend that all material acquired for the championships be expressly listed and valued so that it is not lost and forgotten.

These future structural changes will be implemented after the meeting. The Accounts were approved with one abstention.

Topic 6 Matters Arising from the decisions made on the Spring Meeting, presentation of progress of Workgroups and Individuals:

a. International Race Committee on individual contracts with the members - Progress Report by Stan Macur.

The report was approved unanimously.

b. Media and Communication Workgroup (WG1) - Progress Report presented by Attila Pataki, Jr. During the first WG meeting held in September Members, Rules of procedures, and sub-budget were proposed and Communications Strategies were workshopped. Deb Whitehorse previewed dniceboat.org, the new DN Class Portal. A new DN Class youtube channel was set up for the collection and publication of iceboat-related videos.

The Media & Communications Workgroup Report was approved unanimously, with the stipulation that the sub-budget is reworked with the Treasurer.

c. Event Sponsoring Workgroup (WG2) - Progress Report.

Unfortunately, Tomek had to leave the call before the topic, but he made a report during his liaison with the Media & Communications Workgroup which was conveyed by the Secretary:

“Tomasz Zakrzewski shared a comprehensive summary of his consultations with PR & marketing agencies about the idea of professional discipline presentation. He proposed the need for Marketing Material Package (with possible multiple tiers), the need to create a short (90-120 second) introductory film about the sport, the assessment of sponsor display possibilities and the assessment of our viewership for market research. He also agreed that the hiring of a professional content creator is an investment, with which we can bring sponsorship into the sport, which will hopefully relieve future budgets, ensure the visibility and survival of the sport and might even bring back money”

The Report was approved unanimously.

d. Professional Meteorologist one week ahead and during the WC/EC - Progress Report by the Commodore. The Commodore expressed his scepticism for the need of a Professional Meteorologist.

The Report was approved unanimously.

e. Paid Jury Chairman during the events - Progress Report by Stan Macur.

The Report was approved unanimously.

Post Meeting update: Dietmar Gottke is no longer available for the position for this season due to health issues.

f. Race equipment - Progress Report

The Report was approved unanimously.

Topic 7 COVID-19 Action Plan

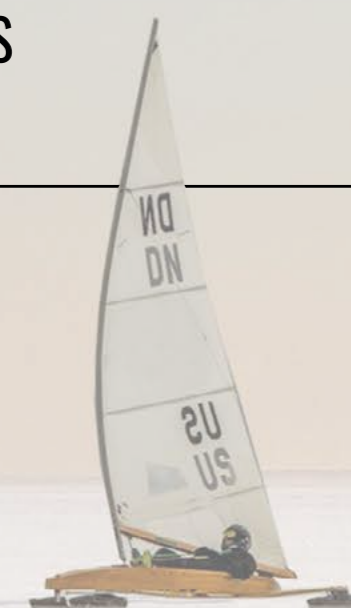
1. Unless decided otherwise, preparations for the season will be done in the usual way.
2. Necessary preventions taking place during an event: Body Temperature monitoring, social distancing,

Continued next page

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3. There will be an ongoing monitoring of the situation country by country with the assistance of the national secretaries.

4. The final decision on the sustainability of the event will be made on the 19th December 2020.

Topic 8 Discharge of the Board of Officers (Only National Secretaries vote)

It was agreed that the Board of Officers (Commodore, Vice Commodore, Treasurer, Junior Programme Manager and Secretary) had discharged their duties according to the Constitution in a very satisfactory manner.

This was confirmed by a unanimous vote.

Topic 9 Election of IDNIYRA - Europe Officers for 2 year period

(Only National Secretaries vote)

The following were elected and approved for 2 year period:

Commodore: Attila Pataky (reelected) by unanimous vote
Vice-Commodore: Mihkel Kosk elected with 10 votes
(other nominees: Jerzy Sukow & Péter Hamrák received 1-1 votes)
Treasurer: Jerzy Henke (reelected) by unanimous vote

The following Auditors were elected and approved:

Ambroise Johnson (reelected) by unanimous vote for a 1 year period.
Peter Uhlmann was elected by unanimous vote for a 2 year period.

Topic 10 Determination of contributions to the IDNIYRA - Europe and event entry fees (Postponed)

By unanimous vote it was agreed to have the entry fee of €195 and the membership fee of €25. Additional banking costs will be borne by the sailors.

Topic 11 Budget 2020/2021 » See Attachments.

The 2020/21 Budget was approved by unanimous vote.

Topic 12 Constitution Change » See Attachments.

According to the decisions made at the Spring Meeting of 2020 the attached changes were made in the wording of the Constitution. **These changes were accepted unanimously.**

Topic 13 Organisation Rules Change » See Attachments.

According to the decisions made at the Spring Meeting of 2020 the attached changes were made in the wording of the Organisation Rules. **These changes were accepted unanimously.**

Topic 14 Other Business

The Commodore and the Secretary thanked all the participants for joining and invited them to the Skype call on the final decision on the event held on the 19th December 2020 from 14:00 CET.

The Board of IDNIYRA-Europe wishes everybody a successful and responsible preparation for the season. Stay Safe and Think Ice!

Attila Pataki, Jr. M101
Secretary
IDNIYRA Europe

Attila Pataky M100
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