

International iQFOiL Class  
Association Executive Committee  
Meeting

**MINUTES**

**Date and time:** 06<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – 14h00 CET

**Place:** Online via the Zoom conferencing system

**In attendance:**

**Executive Committee**

Ronnie Meir (ISR) - President, Peina Chen (CHN), Helene Noesmoen (FRA), Nicolas Goyard (FRA), Barrie Edgington (GBR), Lorand Utassy (HUN), Adrien Gaillard (MEX), Ewa Jodlowska (POL), Piotr Myszka (POL)

**Class' Manager** Gonzalo Costa Hoevel

**Class' Executive Secretary** Valérie Boutet-Massonneau

**iQFOiL Europeans – Patras – Greece – 6<sup>th</sup> > 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Gonzalo and Valerie had a meeting on Friday 6 January at 10am with the organisers (Mr Kostas Stamalis, Mr Kostas Georgopoulos, Mr John Papaspirou)

The event will be organised from the Porto Rio Hotel in Patras. The hotel is also offering accommodation for all competitors with preferential rates before and during the competition.

The start will be from the beach, as at the European Championship in Marseille.

There will be grassy areas for the sailors to rig up and tents will be set up to store the equipment at night.

Following a request from the PWA to bring forward the original dates of the European Championships by one week, the question was put to the organisers and to the Excom.

The dates of the PWA World Cup schedules in Torbole, Italy, are being disrupted by a big bike festival heavily sponsored by the municipality of Trentino.

The Executive Committee argued that the European Championship is one of 2023 major event of the Class and it cannot be moved just a few months before. Moving the event one week earlier will also compromise the SOF in Hyères – France, event that may be the last chance for some countries to qualify for the Olympics the following year.

**Barrie Edgington (GBR)** adds that it is much more difficult for the iQFOiL Class than for the PWA to be flexible as the number of participants in the events continues to grow & it has to take into account the scheduling of about 20 events (iQFOiL Circuit + Olympic Circuit).

For its part, the Organiser informed the Class that it could no longer change the dates of this championship as the hotel had been blocked on these dates, and many other contracts for the organisation of the event were already booked as well.

As such, the iQFOiL Class will contact Richard Page - PWA Tour Manager - to inform him of the impossibility of changing the dates of the 2023 iQFOiL European Championships.

## iQFOiL Class' Coach

### Reminder of the context

*The mission of the World Sailing Emerging Nations Program (ENP) is to increase the number of sailors participating at international major events, with the objective of narrowing the performance gap and promoting worldwide competition.*

*The International iQFOiL Class Association is supporting the ENP by providing an expert iQFOiL Class coach for competitors who are nationals of and compete for emerging nations.*

As such, a job offer was placed within the two iQFOiL Classes (Senior + Youth & Junior) and a total of 11 applications were received (3 women + 8 men)

The Executive Committee came to the conclusion that it made more sense to have one coach in charge of both populations:

This provides a real link between the Youth & Junior Class and the Senior Class,

It also allows us to have an additional person working full time for the Class and reinforcing its action on the ground, "something very meaningful".

The iQFOiL Class Coach will have to:

- Supervise and lead training sessions and clinics,
- Provide support in major competitions,
- Train Emerging Nations Sailors in sailing technique,
- Create a framework for Emerging Nations Sailors that they can use for training in their own countries,
- Teach Emerging Nations Sailors how to sail competitively during international competition,
- Provide all the organisational tools a sailor needs to compete in international events,
- Plan a sports season calendar including major regattas, training regattas, and training camps,
- Organise and supervise sports trips (regattas and training camps).

The Executive Committee is aware of the costs involved for the Class and the large budget this represents.

As such, several possibilities are being considered:

- Support from World Sailing,
- Partnership with the structures hosting the training camps and organising the regattas (loan of boat, accommodation and catering for the coach),
- Participation of the sailors (Tariff to be defined).

Four coaches were identified as being the most suitable to carry out all these tasks.

They will be contacted shortly, as will all the other applicants.

## Evolution of equipment

### MODIFICATION AND REINFORCEMENT OF SAILS

Prototypes were made and tested:

#### Drainage system

For the 9m<sup>2</sup> and the 8m<sup>2</sup>, the factory made openings in the sleeve at the level of each batten to better drain the water.

#### Sleeve reinforcement

Reinforcement in the body at the level of batten n°6

Some members of the Executive Committee wondered whether this change would lead to a change in the profile of the sail, sharpen the leading edge and cause a change in the performance of the sail.

#### Mast Top

A reinforcement has been added to the inside of the sleeve, at the mast head sleeve to protect the inner seams when the sailors insert the mast into the sheath.

### **Boom height reference**

Following the request made at the last AGM, the boom window has been lowered on the 8m2 in order to better take into account the size of the women and the youth.

The boom window has been lowered to the top part of batten camber 6.  
The camber is the limiting factor to have the boom window even lower.  
The factory will try to have the zip all the way to the bottom of the boom window.

### **Leech reinforcement**

Leech area at batten tips has been reinforced with a double layer of monofilm on batten 4 and 5 for extended durability.

The proto sails will be tested further by teams in Lanzarote the upcoming weeks.

### **530 MASTS**

Final numbers of how many new masts are available on all markets will be available by Friday 13th Jan. Is important to have a fair distribution worldwide.

Some masts will be distributed to some teams for testing in Lanzarote to give feedback.

After recollecting all the information, the ExCom will study when the new version of the mast should be allowed in competition.

## **iQFOiL Events '23 second half**

There is a possibility of having two big iQFOiL Events in the second half of the year in Europe.

iQFOiL Games and U21 World Championships in Marseille from 11-16 of September and iQFOiL Games in December in Lanzarote.

The management will try to confirm both asap.

## **Prices of iQFOiL**

There has been an increase on prices for '23 and they will be published on the Class Website asap.

Starboard has kept the prices untouched for three years ('20'21'22).

After Covid hit, there has been a lot of increases on costs of materials and freights, nevertheless SB kept the prices fixed as promised.

Prices for '23 have been updated to this raises on costs.

The Executive Committee Meeting ended at 16.53