



2006 annual report for International Formula Windsurfing Class

It has been another successful year of activity for the Formula Windsurfing Class. Membership of the Formula Class has been maintained, with 39 countries from 5 continents represented (33 national associations and 6 by individual memberships). Activity within many NWA has been maintained; but has declined in some (mainly European) countries.

The Formula Ranking scheme and accompanying international calendar continues to generate interest in the class and provide a much needed tool for national event organisers.

There were 30 international events on the 2006 Ranking calendar: including Formula Worlds, 5 Continental Championships and 24 open regattas/championships.

The World Championships were hosted by Gangneung City, South Korea. The total entry was the lowest recorded for a Worlds, with fewer European entries than usual; but a record number of Asian sailors competed against the top 20 ranked formula racers. The Korean Windsurfing Association and their partners are to be congratulated for hosting a spectacular event.

Continental Championships were held in AUS; ARG; THA; POR; and USA. The Euro Cup tour included 3 stops; a fourth event scheduled for Rhodes was cancelled. The Baltic Cup –LTU; LAT; FIN; and EST grows in strength. The Formula Festival, inc. Formula Youth & Masters World Championships, was this year combined with the Formula Experience World Championship;

The Formula AGM summary that follows illustrates the future direction of the class

Over 30 delegates and observers assembled for the 2006 AGM. In total 21 votes were either present or received by email -ensuring that there was quorum for the meeting.

Class Rule changes.

The proposal for a 2 year registration period for boards was *approved*. To clarify: boards registered (with ISAF) by 30th September 2007 will be eligible to compete in international competition during 2008/2009. For the next period, 2010/2011, boards must be registered by 30th September 2009. The Chairman had also received letters of support for this proposal from Exocet, F2 and Starboard.

The proposals for a 75cm fin limit and minimum mast weight were *not approved*. However, it was agreed to hold a one year "trial period" to better evaluate these proposals; it was not agreed to automatically approve these changes for 2008.

Championship Rules.

The AGM *approved* the proposals to include new formats within the championship rules - ie crosswind (or "slalom" type) and long distance races; and authorised the committee to action workable solutions.

The proposal to lower minimum wind limits was *not approved*.

Championship venues and titles.

It was *approved* to continue co-operation with the Formula Experience Class - and combine an FE *Junior World Championship (title)* with Formula *Youth World Championship (title)* at the Formula Festival, offering a clear structure for the development of formula racing.

Also *approved* - to hold the 2007 Formula Womens World Championship during the Festival event; it was *not approved* to move the Formula *Masters World Championship(title)* to the senior Worlds , it remains a Festival event.

Elections.

The AGM *approved* the re-election of those committee members offering themselves for re-election: ie Ceri Williams (also Chairman), Markus Huhtinen (also Vice Chairman), Phil McGain, Ian Fox, Didier Flamme, Andrea Cucchi.

It was also recommended that Jin-Woo Park (KOR), Wilhelm Schurmann (BRA) and Sarah Sherwood be co-opted to the committee.

Any other business.

Ranking scheme - the AGM supported the proposal to maintain the existing scheme. 2012 - the AGM supported a change of olympic equipment for 2012; and, furthermore, that the Formula Class promote a Trial during the next 12 months to ensure a workable and acceptable alternative exists by November 2007.

Girls/women in Formula - it was agreed that the committee actively seeks new measures to support and encourage womens participation in the formula events; and that the future also lies within the development of a strong youth division.

Ceri Williams – Chairman.