

International Moth Class Association



2009 Annual General Meeting

Cascade Locks, Oregon, USA
Tuesday 11th Aug, 2009
3:35pm

In attendance:

President – Mark Robinson (SIN)

Secretary – Adam May (GBR)

Exec Member – Simon Payne (GBR)

Exec Member – Chris Graham (UAE)

Exec Member – Scott Babbage (AUS)

and approx 45 sailors representing 13 nations who were participating in the World Championships.

Apologies:

Martin Grävare (SWE) – Treasurer

Doug Culnane (AUT) – Webmaster

Burkhard Staabs (GER) – Exec Member

Jean Pierre Ziegert (SUI) – IMCA SUI President

1. Welcome

Introduction by World President Mark Robinson, there were no rule changes or major matters to be discussed at this AGM. Bids for World Championships post 2011; Executive Committee selection and general discussion on ideas moving forwards would be main items.

Appointment of National Delegates

AUS – Scott Babbage

CAN – Andy Mills

GBR – Simon Payne

GER – Gerold Pauler

JPN – Naomi Tachibana

NZL – Chris Steele

UAE – Glen Raphael

USA – Nigel Oswald

SUI – Arnaud Psarofaghis

2. Presidents Report

Mark Robinson has now been class President for 8 years and is happy to run for two or three more years. Currently looking for somebody to follow up and shadow in this role for a few years before taking over the role of President. A similar situation exists with Adam May being

secretary for 4 years. With the growth in class numbers and demands on the committee, it is planned to move Adam into a chief measurer role from this year and to replace him as Secretary at the 2010 AGM.

As a class we are in a very good position. With over 200 boats being built in a year, compared to several years back when we'd be lucky to do 50 and a number of commercial builders at each financial entry level.

Mark finished off with a vote of thanks to Nigel Oswald, Charlie McKee & IMCA USA. It has been great to see so much media coverage and so many locals watching the World Championship from the shore.

3. Secretary's Report

Nothing more to add outside those areas already mentioned by the President.

4. Treasurer Report

Martin Grävare sent through the accounts prior to the AGM, and they are attached to these minutes. The President went through the basic outline of the accounts for the year and called for a President of one of the National IMCA's to be appointed to audit the accounts for the year with the Treasurer. Nigel Oswald from IMCA USA agreed to go through accounts with Martin to approve them.

5. National Association Reports

AUS – Going well with 43 boats at the Nationals, including boats from 5 or 6 counties. Planning is going well for Jan 2011 Worlds and expected to be a very large event with 80+ boats.

JPN – 15 boats at Nationals. Former Olympic sailors are now joining the fleet.

GBR – Year started well with a foiler stand at the entrance to the dinghy show with 4 Moths from 4 different builders in the show. Hayling Island now has a very big fleet with ~17 boats and growing. The Nationals saw over 40 boats in Wales, and open meetings are being well attended. Reduction in UK entries in the USA Worlds due to the Europeans in July and prep for Dubai 2010. USA – Been busy with Worlds prep. Activity on the West coast, but East coast fleet is distant. Steady flow of new boats. Keen to invite sailors from around the World to their Nationals, with the National title awarded to non nationals.

SUI – There are 16 boats in Geneva, with the Nationals being held in 2 weeks time. 5 new boats have been launched this year. Jean-Pierre Ziegert has been busy preparing for the 2010 Euros in Silvaplana and is at the venue at the current moment.

UAE – Worlds coming up in March 2010. With 4 new boats recently, now up to 13 in Dubai. Plenty of interest with Worlds coming up. More boats on the way. Worlds' organizing going well and a regatta manager has been appointed. Discounted hotel deal with IBIS Hotel, at 85usd per double room, held until mid Jan. Round the World race planned for during the event. Ribs will be available for charter. NOR will be published shortly after 2009 Worlds.

CAN – Interest in used boats, but 3000 miles between sailing sites makes fleet sailing difficult. Trying to link up with the Seattle (USA) fleet to get regular racing.

NZL – Not much happening, 2 boats currently active at the moment but lots of interest with Assassin being built locally. There were a number of X8's around, but most now sold outside of the country.

GER – No official numbers, but lots of Interest but looking for cheap boats. Number of sailors is rising, but all located all over the place, and people not travelling, so not much racing happening.

6. Any Other Business

Any topics that could enable the class or racing to be run better were opened up to the floor.

Championship Format

Charlie McKee – Asked should the championships manual be updated to reflect what we are doing at USA Worlds? 10 races, 2 drops over 5 days. Number of races per day? 15 races 2 drops? 3 drops?

Bora Gulari – 15 races, 20 min races is great. Nobody in disagreement.

2 drops or 3 drops? Risk with class – pushing the envelope, and the perception is that the boats break a lot – so do we need more discards?

Motion unanimously passed for 15 races, 2 drops for 2010 Worlds in Dubai.

Dependent on area of World Championships, the distance from shore, and the number of back to back races; the number of drops (2 or 3) should be discussed and set each year.

Equipment Limit Rule

J McKee - Asked whether an equipment limit rule for championships should be introduced.

The President outlined that this had been discussed a few years ago but did not get passed. The general feeling is that as a development class we should not be limiting development of parts that will take the class forwards and that there was a feeling of imposition on the average fleet guy in having to get permission to change all the time due to breakage. i.e. different to the one-design class philosophy. However if multiple rigs/sails/foils for every wind condition started to happen 'en masse' and drove the cost of competing up significantly it is likely that this position would be revisited and a rule limiting equipment at events would be introduced.

General Class Vibe

Charlie McKee – Noted that as a new class member the Moth Class had a great vibe, was cutting edge and from those new to the class he noted the appreciation to those who had developed and managed the class to what it is today. He also noted that the local spectators loved the slalom racing and it should be incorporated as part of the overall event in future where possible.

Jury requirements

A question was raised as to the need to have an International Jury for World Championships.

The President outlined that the we were bound to the ISAF Regulations for World Championships only, which require an International Jury. For this year approval had been sought from and given by ISAF to not have an Int. Jury on the basis that we rarely had protests (the last protest was in '05 and was against the race committee). Approval to continue this for 2010 would need to again be sought from ISAF.

Spectator Craft

Bora Gulari – Highlighted concerns with a large number of powerboats charging up the course immediately after the start and near downwind mark rounding's and the underwater disturbance this was causing on the foils particularly in marginal foiling conditions. He suggested that with the shorter courses (i.e. lap times) it may be better to have some formal restrictions on spectator craft movement.

Action: Executive Committee to look into adding this into the Championship Guidelines

Sail Numbers and Class Insignia

Rohan Veal – Proposed that top ten competitors get to use their World Championship placing as their sail number until the end of the following World Championships to aid in spectator and media promotion. He also proposed that any current or past World Champion be allowed to carry a gold Moth symbol on their sail similar to what the Star Class do. With no objections or abstentions, the proposal was passed unanimously.

Action: Executive Committee to discuss with ISAF to add this into the Class Rules

7. Elections

President: Mark Robinson (SIN) nominated by Charlie McKee, seconded by Chris Williams. All in favor.

Secretary: Adam May (GBR) nominated as Secretary and Chief Measurer by Chris Williams, seconded by Ian Andrews. All in favor.

Treasurer: Martin Grävare (SWE) nominated by Mark Robinson, seconded by Joe Bousquet. All in favor.

The President nominated the following persons to Executive Committee:

Scott Babbage (AUS), Simon Payne (GBR), Chris Graham (UAE), Nigel Oswald (USA), Doug Culnane (AUT) – Webmaster, and Arnaud Psarofaghis (SUI).

Joe Bousquet, Nathan Outteridge, and Charlie McKee seconded the nominations. All in favour.

With no further business, the President then declared the meeting closed at 4:36pm

Footnote: The Executive Committee has realized that Burkhard Staabs (GER) was mistakenly missed out when re-appointing the Exec members at the AGM and has approved his re-instatement onto the Exec for 2009-10.