



Access Class Association (UK)

Agenda for a Committee Meeting to be held at 11.00am on Monday, 24 November 2008, in the Lecture Room, Hillingdon Outdoor Education Centre, Harefield, Middlesex UB9 6JN

Agenda

1. Welcome by Chairman and any apologies
2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 11 July 2008 at Burghfield Sailing Club (attached?)
3. Agreement for IACA Executive Officer, David Staley, to participate in the meeting as an observer
4. Programme of TT Events in 2009 (see Website – 10 Events plus National Champs.) ?
 - 4.1 Approval of overall programme
 - 4.2 Further consideration of which events to make “Open” (See Annex)
 - 4.3 “Number of events to count” for TT overall prizes
 - 4.4 Review of arrangements for Northern and Southern Area Championships
 - 4.5 Consideration of whether to split the 303 class into single- and double-handed divisions and/or to change the minimum weight requirements (See Annex)
 - 4.6 Assistance to Race Teams at host clubs – Have any clubs asked for this? – Any comments on the quality of race management at TT events
 - 4.7 Arrangements for Briefings and the First Start at ACA(UK) Events – have these been satisfactory in 2008?
 - 4.8 Arbitration hearings at TT events – are these arrangements satisfactory?
 - 4.9 On-water judging – any comments from the Frensham TT; do we wish to keep this option for clubs that wish to use it?
 - 4.10 Entry Fees – should entry fees be per boat rather than per person? (See Annex)
 - 4.11 Any other racing event business.
5. Proposals for changes to ACA(UK) Class Rules and Special Rules (See Annex)
6. Consideration of PY Nos of the Access 2.3, 303 Solo, 303 Double and Liberty
7. Progress on the project “Involving more Severely Disabled People” – Dave Durston
8. Possibility of training sessions run by George Barker
9. Treasurer’s Report – Paul
11. Report of International Events in 2008 and plans for 2009
 - 11.1 French Nationals – June 2009
 - 11.2 European Championships – September 2009
12. 2010 Access World Championships – Progress report of Organising Committee
13. Where to hold the ACA(UK) AGM in 2009?
14. Publicity – Is there a tri-fold leaflet that can be nused? Any suggestions to improve publicty generally?
15. Any Other Business
16. Plans for future meetings

Supporting Arguments for Designated Agenda Items

Agenda Item 4.2

Throughout the rest of the sailing world, Access class racing is “Open”, and the 2010 World Championships will be an “Open” event for all classes. We allowed Open sailing in 2008 for TT meetings and in no class at any TT event did a non-disabled competitor win. To prepare for the World Championships, are we now ready to go completely “Open”, bearing in mind the guidance that non-disabled competitors must not use boats that have been purchased in UK VAT-free.

Agenda Item 4.5

Should we split the 303 class into single-handed and double-handed with separate prizes in 2008, although still starting together?

In the 2008 TT series the first ten boats were 5 single-handers and 5 double-handers, not all of whom completed five races to qualify but all did at least three. The three overall prizes were taken by single-handers. It is suggested that splitting the class may encourage more double-handers to enter if they know they are not competing directly with the single-handers, bearing in mind that double-handers currently only need one person with a disability on board.

If we split, it is suggested that all weight restrictions be removed which would bring us into line with the International Access 303 Class Rules.

Agenda Item 4.10

Currently every participant in our TT and National events pays an entry fee. Is it fair that when a crew is sailing to enable the disabled person to participate they have to pay an entry fee? In some cases this is paid by the disabled person who then is paying a double entry fee. Should this be changed? The argument in the past has been that two prizes are needed.

Agenda Item 5

Following decisions made at this meeting and also changes to the International Class Rules (see www.accessclass.org/default.asp?MenuID=Technical/c13156/0/) it is for consideration that we adopt the International Class Rules with just a few UK “Special Concessions”. The International Rules are currently being reviewed by the Committee of IACA with most of the 2008 UK differences under consideration for incorporation. These are:

1. Mainsheets to be allowed to be 2:1 final purchase and use blocks on the traveller
2. Mainsail Outhauls to be allowed to be led via the console to the helm position
3. Extra blocks to be allowed in Liberty and 303 classes in front of the mainsheet fairlead and jamming cleat to reduce friction

There are some other differences between International and UK Class Rules, e.g.

1. International Rules allow a drainage tube through the aft buoyancy compartment.
2. The International Access Liberty Class Rules specify an optional weight equalisation system.

It is suggested that the International Class Rules be adopted by ACA(UK) and that any differences we wish to retain be incorporated in the Special Rules which will be revised when the International Class Rules revisions have been agreed. The Committee of ACA(UK) will be consulted about the changes to the Special Rules before the start of the 2009 season.