



# International FJ Organization

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## Counselors' meeting 2015

Date: July 31st 2015

Present: Jori Vermij (NED), Norbert Riffeler (USA), Rok Volk (SLO), Michael Korsmeier (GER), Kazu Saitoh (JAP), Eugene Shiuyabua (JAP), Shinichi Uchida (JAP) & Bert Wolff (IFJO Pres)

Absent:

ITA

BEL

Board: Simone Kramer, Mitja Nemec, Ronald Kalkhoven

Documents added to the meeting:

Appendix A: Financial report & forecast from Ronald Kalkhoven (Treasurer IFJO)

Appendix B: E-mail and final draft rules drafted from Martijn Aarts

Appendix C: Offer to organize the World Championship 2017 from Slovenia

### 1. Opening

The President opens the meeting and welcomes all present. One point is added to the agenda: The IFJO website.

### 2. Minutes of previous meeting

All present confirm that they have no objections to the minutes of the previous meeting at Lago di Santa Croche 2014. The issue about the Italian request about the sails is discussed and added to these minutes as an additional point.

### 3. Financial report and forecast

The financial report and forecast were approved.

### 4. Elections

Bert Wolff resigned as president of the IFJO.

Simone Kramer resigned as secretary of the IFJO.

Matthias Riffeler send an e-mail to the meeting suggesting his candidacy to be president is elected as the new president of the IFJO

Bert Wolff is elected as the new secretary of the IFJO for one year to support Matthias and help him get started. Next year a new secretary will be elected



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## 5. Re-elections

Ronald Kalkhoven is re-elected as treasurer of the IFJO

Martijn Aarts is re-elected as technical representative of the IFJO

## 6. Next championships

The European championship 2016 will be held in The Netherlands. The venue will be revealed in the coming months

Rok Volk brought an offer from a Slovenian club to organize the World championship 2017.

All present voted to hold the world championship 2017 in Slovenia. Attached to this meeting the offer to organize the event.

Germany offers to host the European championship 2018. There is a discussion if the event can be held earlier in the year, at the beginning of July. In this way there are more options to go to different locations where races are organized. For Japan this isn't really an option because of the school schedule but mr. Saitoh and mr. Shiuyabua will investigate this option and report back to the IFJO board.

## 7. Reports from each country

- The Netherlands report 8 -15 boats at local races. New boats are at the Dutch training camp and therefore the class is growing again.
- The Japanese sailing federation decided to change the official boat from FJ to 420. This means that the FJ will be used for three more years and after that the high schools can only compete in the 420 class. This of course means a big change for the Japanese FJ class. There will be a lot of FJ's available on the free market and maybe there will be more private owned FJ's. Currently you can only compete in a FJ if you are a student. Infrastructure needs to be built to accommodate for this new situation and allow for future races. There is also an idea to make the FJ the official team race boat to practice in for the Olympics. In this way the FJ stays in sight of Japanese sailing officials.
- There is no report from the USA.
- There are 16 FJ's in Slovenia of which 4-7 boats compete in local races.
- In Germany there are on average 25 boats competing but many more FJ's are at local clubs. There are many races on the calendar so the fields are a little small. Perhaps more focus and lesser races are a solution as well as more synchronization between the various European calendars.

## 8. Rules

a. A final draft of the new rules is ready to be sent to ISAF and attached to these minutes.

Martijn Aarts is almost in agreement with ISAF about the rules but asks all FJ class members and sailors to give their input. He explains this in the attached e-mail. It is agreed to send this draft to all counsellors and ask them for input in their own countries and report back to



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the IFJO board before September 15<sup>th</sup>. The IFJO board will lookup the correct ISAF procedure to finalize these rules.

b. The Italian request about the sails is discussed and every country gave their opinion. It was the unanimous opinion of this meeting that in the next three years no changes to the main sail and jib are allowed.

On the topic of the spinnaker opinions varied:

- Germany wants to allow for local testing of only 420 spinnakers in races, but no championships, for a period of two years. After this period the results are discussed and a decision can be made.
- The Netherlands tried a Vaurien spinnaker but found it to have little result. The Netherlands wants to allow for testing of various spinnakers for performance or attractiveness. The only condition is that it must be a widely available standard spinnaker.
- Japan says no because a change costs a lot of money, and probably no money will be spend because of the change to the 420 class in the next three years. To be attractive the class must be low cost. Japan is open to discussion after these three years.
- Slovenia says no because they are a small class.
- USA withholds its opinion.

The common agreement was to allow for testing in the coming two years with 420 spinnakers in local races. After these two years a positive or negative conclusion can be made by the countries. With the use of a larger spinnaker a larger pole is needed. It is agreed that if a larger spinnaker is tested the spinnaker pole may be up to 100 mm longer than the current spinnaker pole.

## 9. Website

The IFJO website hasn't had much attention in the recent years. This must be addressed soon. Claudia Riffeler offered to update and maintain the website. This will cost some money. It is agreed that if the cost of this update exceed the amount of €400,- the IFJO counsellors are informed and must approve further spending, but below this amount Claudia is free to spend the money as she sees fit. Many thanks to Claudia and Michael to make this possible. It was suggested to at least include the Japanese website and Facebook page.