



MINUTES OF MEETING – IHA 2018

H-Boat Association General Meeting 2018

Location: Sandefjord, Norway

Date: 1st August 2018

Participants:

IHA President:	Michael Pochhammer
Chief Measurer:	Heinz-Werner Aping
Treasurer/Finland:	Jyrki Lindström
Sweden:	Bengt Ramne
Denmark:	Mads P.G. Korsgaard
Germany/web manager:	Christoph Zander
Norway:	Arvid Rove and Marius Nytrøen (referent)

Not present:

Netherland, Austria, Switzerland, Thomas Kausen (Technical chairman)

1. Welcome and general remarks of the president

Michael Pochhammer opened the meeting and welcomed the representatives and delegates of the countries.

Remark to the agenda: Sweden was unfortunately not on the list, but of course invited.

Marius Nytrøen was elected to take the Minutes.

A general remark is that the recorded number of H-Boats racing in all countries has decreased over the past years. There was a general discussion how to alter this trend. This must be a prioritized task both for IHA and the national associations.

2. Financial Status 31.12.2017

Financial status was presented by Jyrki. Copy of Summary of assets attached. A loss was recorded for 2017. The loss mainly caused by late payment of membership fees, which will be recorded in 2018. Stickers and medals were bought for more than one year, but cost taken into 2017.

3. Budget for 2018

Budget was presented by Jyrki. Copy of the budget attached. The income of higher membership fees is caused by late payments of a number of countries for 2017. Cost for new website was reduced to 500 euro and the monthly cost of the treasurer to 100 Euro. With these changes the win for 2018 will be 6025 euro.

4. Presentation of the next WC in Netherlands

The World Championship next year will take place at Medemblik in Netherland. The IHA is looking forward to a sailing event run by a professional racing team and in very good sailing facilities. In the area there are lots of summer houses and it should be easy to rent accommodation although it is recommended to book early as the area is popular in the summer months. The representative from each country will distribute the invitation to all sailors as soon as it is available and motivate the teams to participate.

The organizers have expressed some concern for the economy of the event if the number of participants is less than 40 as it was this year. But IHA expects more participants at the more central location in Europe and at a time different from the Alpenpokal race in Italy.

5. Next WC's 2020 until 2021

The World Championship for 2020 will take place in Germany at Warnemünde, Rostock. The time for the event is preliminary set to week number 32.

The World Championship for 2021 will take place in Denmark. The host sailing club is not appointed yet, but there are several good candidates. The IHA remembers the previous successful WC at Thisted and has therefore great expectations.

6. Changes of racing rules

Wind Speed

Some other classes, comparable to the H-Boat class, have limits for maximum and minimum wind speeds. It has also been a concern that insurance companies have implied wind limitations, although this was not verified.

The conclusion of the discussion was to set the maximum mean wind speed to 24 knots and the minimum wind speed to 4 knots, both measured for 10 Minutes prior to the start of the race.

Length of each race

According to changed rules:

7.1 – The World Championship shall consist of at least 9 announced races. 4 races may be sailed on the same day if necessary.

7.5 - The distance of the courses shall be made to meet a duration of approximately 30 minutes.

Based on the general development in the last years where more and shorter races are more common the IHA agrees that the number of announced races should be increased, the number of races per day should be changed to 4 and the duration of each race should be decreased.

Changes to the rules

Michael will revise the H-Boat World Championship rules, and a final decision of the text will be sent by email correspondence, well before the next WC. A formal change may be postponed, not to put World Sailing in a position where they have to consider the validity of the WC.

7. Registration procedure through Manage2sail

The Manage2sail has been used for registration (fully or partly) and results for the last two WC. The Manage2sail is committed until 2034 so the platform should be usable for a long period. The experience of using the platform has been very good for the organizers. Although it is suggested to publish the results on the results board before shown on the web to maintain the result discussions and storytelling among the teams after the races.

IHA advises to use Manage2sail for registration and results. Christoph Zander, Germany will be available for support if needed.

IHA decided to change the WC rules to better suite the use of Manage2sail. This implies remove the rules regarding the forms A/B, make the organizer responsible for having the approval from the national associations to check if the applicants are eligible and further change the WC rules for latest registration from 3 to 2 months before the first race.

Michael will revise the H-Boat World Championship rules, and a final decision of the text will be by email correspondence. A formal change may be postponed as mentioned in No 6.

8. Payment of membership fees through National associations

No changes made to the membership fee. Germany, Austria and Switzerland are asked to transfer their open payments a.s.a.p.

9. New Website (h-boat.org)

After a period with low activity on the old IHA website, Christoph has created a new one and presented it in the meeting. The new website looks very good and has much more relevant information for the IHA members and links to upcoming regattas in the countries. To keep the website useful and with updated information each national association should notice Christoph Zander to include new events, reports and updates of addresses etc.

10. Status of IHA in the world sailing association – WC status

As mentioned in previous IHA meetings there is a general concern that the H-Boat class does not fully comply with the World Sailing rules for World Championships as we only have participants from one continent. IHA will try to contact H-Boat-sailors outside Europe, and encourage the national associations to notice if they become aware of overseas H-Boat sailors. There are some H-Boats in the US west coast, Australia, New Zealand and Brazil. IHA wants to be in contact with them and motivate participating in the WC. Boats may be rented or given free of charge from local owners.

Because of the WC status the formal changes of the H-Boat WC rules might be postponed.

11. Others

Allocation of the WC

Mads asked for considerations regarding the concept taking turns – or have the WC where there are more likely to have more participating boats.

More scenarios discussed i.e.

Should each country apply and IHA choose the best application?

Should IHA have an opinion if the country is committed enough to have the WC?.

Maybe the national associations should be committed to participate in the WC organisation?

No changes to the current practice where decided.

WC Recommendations

Mads called for recommendations / manual / “white paper” regarding social events and others not regulated by the WC rules to be helpful for the organiser of the event. He will ask Thisted if they have something written as basis for a manual.

WC Entry Fee

IHA discussed whether there should be set a maximum entry fee for the WC. For the last years the typical entry fee has been app. 450 euro.

IHA concludes there will not be a formal maximum entry fee, but will recommend a target fee of 450 euro for the organisers of the upcoming events.

12. Election

Mads P.G. Korsgaard was unanimously elected as new Vice President for 2 years. He accepted the election.

Congratulations from the IHA, and at the same time thanks to the former Vice President Bengt Ramne.

Thank you for your attendance and see you all next year at Medemblik!

Sandefjord 14.8.2018

Marius Nytroen

Michael Pochhammer