

# AGM – ICA 2021

International Contender Association  
Annual General Meeting  
08:00 UTC  
Online

## Prolog

Simon Barwood welcomes the members and explains tools of MS Teams prior to the official meeting.

### 1. Opening

Simon Barwood opens the meeting at 08:10 UTC and explains the urgency to run an online AGM after not having an AGM in 2021.

### 2. Apologies

### 3. Previous Meetings

Simon Barwood explains that no questions or concerns were communicated regarding the previous AGM Minutes.

### 4. Matters Arising

Simon Barwood explains that no matters were expressed prior to the AGM as requested in the invitation.

### 5. President's report

Roberto Mazzali thanks the committee members for their work and class members for their participation. He looks back on the pandemic year 2020 and explains decisions which had to be made regarding cancelled regattas and thanks the DCA for their brave decision. A celebration party for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary shall be organized at next worlds.

The few regattas which happened had good amount of members like the Euro 2021. Thanks the GCA for downgrading the event out of solidarity with travel restrictions from AUS, US, CAN, GBR.

For the next season the members have to be patient but good events are lined up.

### 6. Financial report

ICA had less expenses. Therefore, ICA did not ask for fees in 2020. For 2021 fees were collected except US as they paid for more members than they had in the past to get the ISAF NCA status.

Cees de Gruijter shares the expense sheet with the participants and guides through the numbers. Overall bank statement did not change significantly in the past two years.

For 2022 some support for the Worlds is planned as well as for media again and youth support as main expenses. Shipping became more expenses. Support is still questionable as it only supports a few people. The clear use for the next world's support is still to be defined.

The members approve the financial documentation.

*Simon asks members to accept the budget.*

*The budget is accepted by 27 Yes votes and 0 rejections.*

## 7. Technical Report

Jacqueline Rüfenacht explains that a few rule changes can be expected later. Especially the trapeze harness rule will require input by class members.

*Paul asks about minimum depth of rudder blades and whether there is a statement if this is legal or not. → No decision, Jacqueline will look into this.*

*Paul asks regarding mast weights. → 2 NCA want to reduce it. Needs further discussion in the technical committee and will be topic for the next AGM.*

## 8. Secretary Report

Thanks committee for gently involving him in the new role.

COVID 19 was a huge impact in the sailing sport and so for the contenders. ISAF AGM was also online and therefore could be visited. Anti Doping and Sustainability are important topic currently. The ICA does not consider actions regarding Anti Doping unless members are concerned.

19 plagues were issued in 2020 which is a good result being one less to 2019.

In 2021 the numbers of members dropped to pre 2017 levels which is understandable in times of the pandemic. Most fleets were stable over medium terms. Declines in GBR and AUS are expected to turn around with more competitions. Germany is the strongest fleet.

## 9. Media Report

David introduced Instagram to interact with younger people and especially with people who do not know the class yet. Current tools target people who are already interested. Encourages to look up for the new channels. Members should send content to David Schafft, or when they post use #contendersailing and @contendersailing to repost. Everyone shall speak about the class; everyone is an ambassador.

Thank to Max Billerbeck for the 12h challenge. Those special events are needed. Great social distance regatta which drove awareness in the media, printed and digital journals. Members shall contact if they have an idea.

For the Euro a professional media crew was hired by GCA and ICA with photos of every sailor with daily highlight video and overall highlight video for the event.

## 10. International Competition Report

- 2022 European Championship in Austria 20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> August on lake Attersee
- 2022 calendar year won't have a worlds
- 2023 January, Worlds in Perth for. Simon presents the event: <https://rfbyc.asn.au/on-water/off-the-beach-2-2/off-the-beach-regattas-and-events/contender-world-championship-2023/> Travel restrictions are expected to ease in second half of 2022
- 2023 Worlds in Denmark, Kerteminde.
- 2024 Worlds undefined. US/ CAN would be highly appreciated but organizing might be difficult.
  - o If Worlds 2024 in US → European Championship in Switzerland
  - o If Worlds in US not possible → Switzerland hosts the Worlds

- 2025 opening the expression of interest: Netherlands would like to host after losing the Worlds in 2020. Additionally, Italy is interested.
- The selection process is currently revised.

*Question: Renting boats in Perth as Container expensive*

*Answer: not many boats (approx. 2) available as most boats are on the east coast.*

## 11. Class Rules Proposal

### 11.1. Mast Drain Hole

The technical committee worked on the following class rule proposal:

#### **Rule 13.12 current:**

The mast shall be drilled near to the heel with a hole or holes with a minimum total area of 200 mm\*, so constructed that any water is immediately drained after a capsize.

\*should be mm<sup>2</sup>, typo in the rules

#### **Rule 13.12 proposed:**

The mast shall be drilled near to the heel with a hole or holes with a minimum total area of minimum 5% of the area of the cross-section of the mast, so constructed that any water is immediately drained after a capsize.

Applicable table:

Diameter up to [mm]	Sectional area [mm <sup>2</sup> ]	5% of sect. area [mm <sup>2</sup> ]	Hole numbers	Hole Diameter [mm]
50	1963	98	2	8
55	2376	119	2	9
60	2827	141	2	9.5
65	3318	166	2	10
70	3848	192	2	11

With an elliptical mast, the longitudinal measure should be taken into account as diameter.

#### Reason for change:

With carbon masts, the holes are drilled in the mastfoot, because drilling in the tube can lead to breakage. With minimum-diameter masts of 45 mm it is impossible to fit 200 square mm of holes next to the foot plug.

A mast with smaller diameter takes up less water because of its smaller volume, accordingly a smaller drainage hole doesn't impair safety.

*Question: What is near?*

*Answer: "So constructed that any water is immediately drained" defines the design. "Near" in the past was not a problem as location of the holes were ok, not so the size.*

**Result: The new rule was accepted with 29 yes votes out of 34 participants in that moment.**

### 11.2. Clothing weight reference

The technical committee worked on the following rule change to be in line with the current structure of the racing rules.

**Rule 20.2 current:**

With reference to Racing Rule 22.3 (a), the total weight of clothing and equipment .....

**Rule 20.2 proposed:**

With reference to the Racing Rules 2021-24, rule 50.1, the total weight of clothing and equipment .....

**Reason for change:**

The racing rules of sailing have changed considerably since our class rules were written. The reference to RRS 22.3 is not anymore correct, it is RRS 50.1 that defines the weight of clothing and equipment.

This is purely to tidy up and avoid misleading.

**Result: The rule change was accepted with 28 yes votes of 34 participants at that moment.**

### 11.3. Age Categories

The Grandmaster and youth categories were suggested to be lifted.

**Rule 13.5 now:**

The Grand Master World Champion will be the first overall aged 60 years old or more on the date of the first scheduled race.

**Rule 13.5 proposed:**

The Grand Master World Champion will be the first overall aged 65 years old or more on the date of the first scheduled race.

Reason for change: the age difference between master and grand master category is relatively small, there are 30 years between junior and master, and only 10 years between master and grand master.

## CATEGORIES – LIFT AGE JUNIOR CATEGORY

**Rule 13.3 now:**

The Junior World Champion will be the first overall under the age of 21 on the date of the first scheduled race

**Rule 13.3 proposed:**

The Youth World Champion will be the first overall under the age of 24 on the date of the first scheduled race

Reasons for changes: Currently, from the age of 21 to 49, is a very big group, and the masters is only ten years. To balance this a little and to better promote the contender with young people.

**Result: The grandmaster age limited is lifted from 60 to 65, while the Junior title is renamed to Youth title with the new age limit of 24 by 28 yes votes of 32 participants at this moment.**

### 11.4. Race Course – Add Gate

To give sailors more options at the bottom it is suggested to allow a leeward gate.

#### Rule 8.2 now:

The Race course shall be:

- A Windward Leeward Triangle course – Start 12313 Finish
- First mark should be set for one nautical mile but should be adjusted to take into account wind strength
- Triangle reaches should be at an angles that allow the majority of the fleet to trapeze on the reaches, the angle should get broader as the wind increases in strength.

#### Rule 8.2 proposed:

The Race course shall be:

- A Windward Leeward Triangle course – Start 12313 Finish. **No 3 may be a gate consisting of marks 3a and 3b**
- First mark should be set for one nautical mile but should be adjusted to take into account wind strength
- Triangle reaches should be at an angles that allow the majority of the fleet to trapeze on the reaches, the angle should get broader as the wind increases in strength.

Reason for change: gates allow more tactical choices and are commonly used, the ICA committee wants to update the rules accordingly

**Result: The rule change was accepted by 25 yes votes of 32 participants at this moment.**

## 12. Elections

- More people could join the committee. No volunteers ran for elections.
- The whole committee stands for re-election

**Result: The current committee of Roberto Mazzali, Cees de Gruijter, Jacqueline Rüfenacht, Simon Barwood and David Schafft is re-elected with 24 yes votes and 0 rejections of 32 participants at the moment.**

## 13. General Business

### 13.1. Trapeze Rules

- The racing rules expect us to have quick release harnesses from 2023, but we can change this in the class rules
- The committee did not come up yet with an alternative rule.
- In the past there have been failures and the suppliers do not seem to be ready as only most quick releases to not fulfil ISO norms.
- Liability of board members is one related issue in this discussion.
- Committee asks for input from the class

*Pim: proposes to change the day for implantation in our class rules*

*Sören: Quick releases cause more problems than current releases. Rather say we postpone the rule change.*

*Ed: Left the individual sailors. The ICA should not put in any writing.*

*Simon: Rule is more designed for boats with trampolines and more traps for harnesses. At the moment the rule is ahead of the market. We should consider changing the rule to encourage the use without prohibit sailors using the old system.*

*Jon: Can we get input from other classes.*

*Jacqueline: FDs are not changing there class rules now.*

*Simon: in Australia Contender were the first class to address the issue.*

*Martin: Is quick release defined?*

*Simon: defined by ISO 10862 standards.*

The ICA plans to delay the implementation.

### 13.2. Liability Issues

- ICA is not registered anywhere, hence has no legal status anywhere in the world
- For money laundering prevention, institutions need a legal seat.
- Current bank account requires a dutch board member
- Currently board members are completely liable. This needs to be changed to a limited liability.
- The ICA needs help to find out which country would be best to register the ICA and other ideas to solve that issue.
- The class members agree to continue finding a solution making the ICA a legal entity

### 13.3. Next AGM

- If critical topics arise, another online AGM will be held in 2022 before the worlds.
- Otherwise, the next AGM will be held at the Worlds 2023.
- Members ask to have a hybrid solution for executing the AGM in the future to allow more participation
- Members will be informed about the next AGM according to class rules.

## 14. Close

The meeting is closed by Roberto Mazzali at 12:03 UTC.