



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting

held at various times on
25th October, 30th October and 5th November 2020
via Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Bruno Finzi (ITA, Chairman), Wolfgang Schaefer (GER, Deputy Chairman), Jose Frers (ARG, Deputy Chairman), George Andreadis (GRE), Patrick Lindqvist (FIN, Honorary Treasurer)

Observers: Zoran Grubisa (CRO), Vivian Rodriguez (ITA)

Guest: Edoardo Recchi (ITA)

1. Approval of minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Meetings

a) WS submissions & ORC report to WS

The Committee went through the agenda of the WS Oceanic and Offshore Committee discussing items related to ORC.

The Management Committee supports the technical report on UMS as presented by Jason Smithwick and Zoran Grubisa. It was also agreed within Skype conference call with Panayotis that ORC and IRC will create together software that will convert IRC data to be read with ORC software and vice-versa. It was noted that technical sides of both rating systems have good cooperation with further alignment of some measurement procedures. However, the administrative part of the UMS including ownership and administration needs to be discussed with RORC at the management level.

A report on the proposed joint scoring method for the planned ORC/IRC World Championship was noted. As the championship was cancelled there was no possibility to evaluate the proposed method and the Committee agrees that if and when the joint ORC/IRC Worlds will restart the scoring system can be revisited with the best technical solution while respecting both rating systems.

While ORC is supporting the initiative of being a founding member of Offshore Doubles as an association of offshore sailors competing in double-handed events, the Management Committee will also recommend to the Classes and Events Committee establishment of ORC DH Classes within rating parameters of boats that may also be selected for the 2024 Olympics. These classes could serve all MNA's that need to set up a qualification system for the 2024 Olympics before the final boat selection is made, as well as wherever there may be DH handicap class racing.

b) ORC 2020 Submissions

MANCOM 1 – Certificate layout improvement

The Management Committee supports the proposal made by the staff that has already been supported by the ITC.

USA 4 – Multiple certificates

As a part of certificate layout re-organization, the staff also proposed the introduction of a Non-Spinnaker certificate on the same basis as the DH certificate, offering all scoring options and not just a single number rating for non-spinnaker configuration. This is partially responding to this submission while the portion of the submission asking to have multiple valid certificates at the same time is not supported as creating multiple valid certificates at the same time within each type may create confusion and it is contrary to the basic principle that only the last issued certificate is the valid one. What is supported is a boat may have one valid certificate of each type: regular, DH and Non-Spinnaker.

c) Review of Committees and Congress members

The Congress members list to be presented at the Congress was reviewed. There were no requests for changes in the committee membership except in the Measurement Committee where Ichiro Yokoyama will step out from the committee and Japan was asked to suggest his replacement. Also David Bartol has been suggested for addition to the Race Management Committee. The Management Committee supports Bruno Finzi as interim chairman of the Offshore Classes and Events Committee after Paolo Massarini passed away. Paolo will be added to our Roll of Honour Committee.

3. Finance and budgeting

a) Financial report

The Treasurer is happy to report that the Management could review monthly Income and Expenditures so that the Company will not incur in any big deficit this year.

b) Levy payments and PayPal income

Paypal incomes statistics for 3rd quarter filed by Panayotis were distributed to the ManCom.

c) 2020 budget review

The 2020 budget was presented to the Management Committee. Notwithstanding the difficult situation of the pandemic with consequently lower incomes, ORC managed to monitor the budget monthly reducing some expenses with a consequence of a small surplus up to the end of October. The Management Committee wishes to thank ORC staff members who accepted to reduce their fee in this difficult year for the company.

d) 2021 budget

It was agreed not to present a new budget for 2021, but to follow the same figures presented originally for 2020 with a monthly review as done this year to monitor monthly incomes and expenses.

4. Marketing and promotion

a) Sailor Services report

The Sailor Services report is showing increases in the number of test runs of 20% in comparison with the same period of last year and with slight increase of distinct users.

b) Fleet statistics, Rating Office relations and possible new countries

Fleet statistics as presented to the WS report are showing a decrease of about 25% in total number of certificates. This may be considered a good result in this time of pandemic with many events cancelled, and it is also encouraging to see 2458 new ORC DH certificates issued.

Despite the pandemic, there were increases in number of certificates recorded in: Australia with some of the major Sailing Clubs accepting ORC Club for their racing, Estonia and Finland that completely transferred the local rating systems to ORC Club, and interest from Sweden and Latvia to do the same. Probably the most important acceptance of ORC racing is from Chicago Yacht Club and Bayview Yacht Club that will use ORC for their signature Mackinac races from 2021. There was also good acceptance of ORC in Turkey that will host the 2021 ORC Sportboat championship be even more developed during next year.

c) Seminars and presentations plan

It is hard to make plans for seminars and presentation in times of pandemic and travel restrictions, but depending on the situation seminars and presentations are planned in Estonia to cover recent developments in Baltic countries, but also for the upcoming ORC World Championship as well as again in Turkey as an important new region. Originally there was a plan for Zoran to visit Australia connected to the trip to the Superyacht events in New Zealand, but this has been delayed until the COVID pandemic effects will be over. The ORC Staff will give full support to new fleets of Chicago and Bayview regattas in the US with possible travels defined in due time.

d) ORC Publications

The ORC Staff will work to prepare all rules and publications to be ready in January 2021 with the new ORC Manager software. The newly published Race Management Guide will be reviewed in line with decisions about new certificate layouts and scoring option rationalization.

e) ORC Website

Development of the ORC website redesign was temporarily suspended awaiting the final decision about new certificate layouts and scoring option rationalization; it will resume as soon as possible after the AGM, with the new web design to be continued and finished during 2021.

5. Technical research and developments

a) ITC and Measurement report

Andy Cloughton presented ITC's work during 2020 and its plans for 2021. Details may be found in the ITC minutes. The Management Committee approved the ITC R&D budget for 2021 and thanked the Chairman and all ITC members for the hard work they performed during 2020.

b) UMS Report

See Item 2 a)

6. ORC Championship Events

a) Reports on 2020 events

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic no major ORC Championship was held in 2020. The ORC/IRC Worlds planned for Newport USA was cancelled, while the ORC Europeans in Capri, Italy and the ORC Sportboat Europeans in Istanbul were postponed to 2021.

b) Updates on 2021 events

The 2021 ORC World Championship will take place in Tallinn, Estonia and a short presentation was made during the meeting of the Offshore Classes and Events Committee.

c) Plans for 2021 and beyond

A bid to host the 2022 ORC Worlds Championship has been received from Yacht Club Costa Smeralda while for the ORC Europeans 2022 bids originally presented for 2021, that were stopped due to the pandemic, will be invited to present their bids for 2023 and later. The Committee agrees that the 2022 Europeans bids should be coming from Baltic countries since the 2022 Worlds will be held in the Mediterranean region.

7. ORC Superyacht

The Superyacht season was also strongly affected by the pandemic with only 2 events completed: the Millennium Cup and the Antigua Superyacht Challenge, with all other events after March being cancelled. Hopefully next year will be more successful with two events planned in New Zealand, the Antigua and Bucket regattas in the Caribbean and the Loro Piana Superyacht Regatta and Superyacht Cup Palma on the Mediterranean.

No changes in the SY VPP are planned for 2021, but the HSF treatment introduced for ORC International last year will be tested for SY during 2021 with the intention to be implemented in the SY VPP from 2022.

The Management Committee wishes to thank all staff members involved for their continuous contribution and hard work also following the great loss of Paolo Massarini.

8. ORC Multihull

Andy Cloughton reported to ManCom on Multihull projects for next year. R&D budget and plans were approved as well as priorities. The Management Committee wishes to thank all staff members involved for their continuous contribution to the development of this rule.

9. Meeting with Committee Chairmen

Committee Chairmen were interviewed by the Chairman and relevant requests were addressed and discussed. The Management Committee encourages each Chairman to continue to organize virtual Committee meetings whenever needed and possible.

10. ORC Staff interview and single responsibilities and assignments

All staff were interviewed by the ManCom on a Zoom meeting and responsibilities as well as individual tasks were discussed and addressed. The Management Committee wishes to express a huge thank you to all staff members for the behavior they had during this very difficult year working all together to keep the Company upfront.

11. Planning on 2020 Committees and Staff meetings

Depending on travel restrictions in April 2021, a ManCom meeting is planned in Athens, but Zoom will be continued for meetings before and probably after following the pandemic situation.