

Snipe Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Snipe Class International Racing Association

Volume 1, January 2000

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SCIRA Calendar 2000

The Count: 9 numbers were issued this month; 1 to Italy, 4 to USA, 4 to Brazil.
Numbered Snipes: 29692
Chartered Fleets: 851

ADVERTISING

You'll notice there's no advertising in this issue. If you are interested in advertising in future issues, please contact the SCIRA office immediately. This publication reaches all Snipe sailors around the world with a publication & mailing rate reaching approximately 4,000 active sailors! Not a bad way to reach those who need your product!

Next Deadline: March 1

2000 brings new rules, new changes to SCIRA members worldwide

Welcome to the first issue of the newly revised Snipe Bulletin.

2000 brings new changes for the Class. Not only will members see a change in the Snipe Bulletin, but membership and ownership are now treated separately. Members who own boats will receive a decal for their boat, a membership card, the quarterly Snipe Bulletin, and the Rulebook. SCIRA is encouraging each country to continue communication within their country supplemented by the issuance of the Snipe Bulletin, which remains the official record of the Class for information. The Bulletin will also be accessible on the Snipe web page.

Inside are the latest SCIRA rules which take effect January 1, 2000. We'll also try to report ISAF information that affects your sailing.

The Bulletin will be limited to the reporting of National Championships, large international regattas, hemisphere & world championships, as well as rules changes, important news for the Class and committee reports as they affect the membership. Go-fast techniques and tips will also be published as they are received.

Commodore's Column

2000 A Happy New Year to All Snipe Sailors

Here we are on the brink of a new millenium. Imagine our boat will be 70 years young next year and it looks just great. I would like to thank Lee Griffith who as Commodore last year helped SCIRA with some much needed reforms at the world meeting in Spain.

Welcome to our new officers Bertel Bojlesen Vice Commodore, and Birger Jansen Rear Commodore. Many thanks to the Board members who have completed their terms and to welcome the new volunteers to the Board without whom our Class would suffer. Past Commodore Shinoda headed up the Nominating Committee and this group came up with your new executive. Thank you for your hard work.

We must now go forward an all work together to promote our Class into the next century. We have a great boat and good people so lets roll along to bigger and better things. It is really a great honour to be your new Commodore and I hope to be able to visit with many Snipe sailors this year at as many regattas as I can get to. I encourage all Snipers to help and promote our Class. Any ideas you may have will be welcome, so keep in touch. *Serious Racing, Serious Fun* is the motto of our Class so lets do both and also work together so we many enjoy our boat and our Snipe family.



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SNIPES BULLETIN

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Japan National Championship 1999

The 52nd Japan Nationals were held November 18-23 at Ushimado Yacht Harbor in Seto Inland Sea with participation of 85 boats. Seto Inland Sea National Park is one of the most beautiful resort areas in Japan. The Championship was hosted by the very small Snipe fleet, Ushimado Snipe Gakkyu, Fleet #844 under voluntary support of the fleet members, families and many sailing friends in the harbor. It was a remarkable event because this kind of big regatta is usually hosted or supported by larger organizations such as the Prefecture Yacht Federation, where the regatta is usually held. Competitors received every day heartfelt hospitality by various kinds of homemade hot soup, hot dishes and cake. All participants went home with great memories.

Regatta conditions on the sea were unfortunately not so good. The wind was light and shifty and the current was so strong. We could only complete 5 of the 7 races scheduled due to the lack of wind speed. In spite of these unstable conditions, the expected strong teams finished in the top positions. The winner was Ida/Yamazaki. It is their second win and they competed in the Worlds in San Diego. Second was Morita/Setoguchi, and Morita participated in the '97 and '99 Worlds. Third was Yoshioka/Ikebe and they also participated in the Western Hemisphere at Enoshima, Japan in 1998. Fourth was Abe/Yoshida. Fifth was Takamura/Maruyama, and they also participated in both the '97 & '99 Worlds. Sixth was Masuda/Kondo. The top five have qualified for the 2000 Western Hemispheres in Argentina.



Japan National Championship action. Photo: Jiro Kurita

Results:

1.	Ida/Yamasaki	28972	9-2-9-2-2	24
2.	Morita/Setoguchi	29392	6-4-10-13-3	36
3.	Yoshioka/Ikebe	28794	7-1-16-17-8	48.75
4.	Abe/Yoshida	29527	19-7-2-29-4	61
5.	Takamura/Maruyama	29464	1-12-1-6-43	62.5
6.	Masuda/Kondo	29465	10-10-25-21-6	72
7.	Iwamoto/Atsuji	28605	31-13-3-18-10	75
8.	Yokota/Kihara	29047	26-15-20-7-11	79
9.	Adachi/Furuya	29618	5-17-22-25-14	83
10.	Matsuzaki/Sugiura	28288	37-22-21-9-1	89.75
11.	Isobe/Matsumoto	28792	4-38-7-3-38	90
12.	Sarasawa/Sato	28495	15-25-24-8-19	91
13.	Matsumoto/Torii	28175	23-8-12-23-31	97
14.	Nishii/Yamashita	29457	52-3-11-15-21	102
15.	Yoshida/Masumoto	28709	11-9-35-24-25	104

Japan Masters Championship 1999

SCIRA Japan held the Masters Championship 1999 at Kaiyo Yacht Harbor, August 7-8 with participation of 28 skippers.

The two races in the first day were canceled due to heavy wind conditions of more than 25 knots. On the second day, two races were conducted under rather heavy wind conditions where some boats capsized. As a remarkable matter, Mr. Hirata, who is just 90 year old, sailed all the races without capsizing and he finished 14th of 28 competitors!

The winner was Iwasaki/Hayakawa. It was the first win for them. Other results are as follows:

Overall

1.	Iwasaki/Hayakawa	28173	1-5	6
2.	Fujisawa/Tai	28499	4-2	6
3.	Yamamoto/Oka	21349	5-3	8
4.	Nomoto/Ichiji	29465	10-1	11
5.	Saita/Okumura	28875	2-9	11
6.	Suguiura/Nishimura	29075	8-7	15

Senior Masters

1.	Yamamoto/Oka	21349	1-1	2
2.	Moriyoshi/Yoshimura	26857	4-2	6
3.	Sugiura/Nishimura	29075	3-3	6

Grand Masters

1.	Taneda/Taneda	28561	1-1	2
2.	Hirata/Nakamura	25161	2-2	4

Japan Masters Champions. Photo: Jiro Kurita



Japan Women's Championship 1999

The Women's Championship was held August 27-29 at Enoshima. The winner was Kimie Isobe/Mamiko Ozasa. Kimie Isobe is the third continuous wins as the skipper!

1. Kimie Isobe/Mamiko Ozasa
28792
2. Rie Kimura/Tomomi Ryoken
27851
3. Kazue Yamada/Sumiko Takano
29063

Today and the Future of SCIRA Japan

by Jiro Yamamoto, National Secretary

College clubs and company clubs mainly compose SCIRA Japan. The total number of Snipe sailors in Japan are gradually declining in numbers. Of course, activation of these main organizations is the most important subject. On the other hand, for future growth of SCIRA Japan, the emergence of private clubs or fleets such as Enoshima Snipe Kenkyuki (fleet #839) who hosted the 1998 Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship, and Ushimado Snipe Gakkyu (fleet #844) who hosted the most recent Japanese Nationals, is a new step for us. This kind of private fleet will be acceptable to the new and free Snipe sailors who graduate from the College Yacht Clubs and have the intention to continue sailing Snipes.

Our next important subject, sailing Snipes for life, should be the attraction. For this purpose, the fleet captains and main members will plan many attractive events which will have two phases of friendly atmosphere and serious competition, because the sailing club life for seniors is not just for training, unlike the College Clubs.

Recently, I participated in races of other classes, which are not large or popular classes in Japan. Through this experience, I was able to determine that the sailors in these other classes view the Snipe class in Japan as very tough competition, and a class not easy to enter for senior sailors not previously trained at the high level of the College Clubs.

Based on this background, we would like to promote the new, friendly and competitive fleets through a core person in each district. To realize this goal, we would like to hear from other fleets and countries around the world on their fleet activity.

SCIRA Rules in effect January 1, 2000

www.snipe.org

In September 1999, the International Board of Governors voted in new changes for the Snipe Class. Below is a summary of those changes. For a full version of the changes, go to the Snipe web page, click on "Rules/Changes", then "Rules Interpretation Page."

JUNIOR WORLD DEED OF GIFT:

After a 3 Championship test program, the Board voted to permanently adopt changes to the Deed of Gift to allow competitors to bring their own boats. For competitors unable to bring their own boats, the host country must provide "equally matched boats" of similar quality to those brought by the other competitors. If they are not deemed "equal", the SCIRA Representative may declare all boats in a round-robin. The Board also voted to allow the host country an additional team.

FIBER CENTERBOARD:

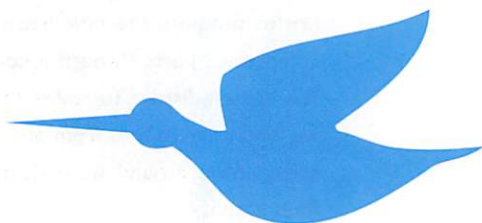
25 boards will be shipped to the Western Hemisphere & Orient countries within the next 3 months for testing. All sailors/testers must report their testing by June 2000. The Board of Governors will then vote to proceed or not with the fiber centerboard.

MEMBERSHIP:

As of 1/1/00, all Snipe sailors around the world will be classified into the following categories:

Ownership	Membership
Owners	senior
Non-owners	junior
Entity	crew

- All SCIRA members will receive a membership card identifying their category and other relevant information
- All SCIRA members will receive the Snipe information Bulletin and the official Rulebook
- All SCIRA boat owners will receive a decal
- Crew membership is optional
- Dues to be finalized in future motion (by 12/31/99)



CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER:

The Board added a non-voting member to the Board. Duties will include:

- Maintain web site, Internet requirements, and e-mail requirements of SCIRA, reviewing of technology & support to the Rules Committee.

ADVERTISING:

SCIRA will adopt Category C subject to the restrictions below.

- Establish SCIRA restrictions, if any, to ISAF Category A & C prescriptions. Reduce SCIRA mandated sponsorship fees by 2/3 for Category A regattas.
- Establish fees for Category C regattas and allow National Secretaries to establish limitations for Category C in their own countries.
- Establish SCIRA fees for individually sponsored boats. Allow individual sponsorship (Category C) in events up to an including a national championship (subject to any SCIRA restrictions) by approval of a National Secretary, but **not allow Category C in international championship events (Worlds, Europeans, Westerns, Jr. Worlds, etc.)**. Allow National Secretaries to establish limitations for Category C.

Measurement Rule Changes

METRIC MEASUREMENTS:

All measurements shall be taken in the metric system.

STANDARDIZATION:

Starting 1/1/00, many parts have been standardized, including placement of rudder, centerboard trunk height, and mast length. In the long run this will make it easier for Snipe sailors to compete around the world as equipment will be interchangeable. Builders of masts will also have standardized lengths that will fit any boat.

SAIL CLOTH:

Raise the minimum sail cloth weight to 2.6oz per sailmaker yard.

BUILDERS:

Adopt a Certified Builder Rule.

Snipe Merchandise

Order Yours Today!

SCIRA Shirts: t-shirts: \$10:00; polo shirts: \$20.00

Snipe belts: D-ring style: bird logo or SCIRA logo: \$15
SCIRA logo with leather tabs: \$20
All leather with bird stamp: \$25

Snipe Kevlar is back!

Large zip-end duffel: \$70
Med. duffel: \$60
wallets: \$15
Bathroom kits: \$20

Best of Snipe Bulletin: \$20.00

Snipe Tales: \$20.00

Blazer patches: \$3.00

Window decals (inside) \$1.50

Blueprints to build your own; \$20.00

Snipe silk ties: \$40.00

Snipe Sandals: \$20.00 whole & half US sizes

See the Snipe web page for details and photos or to order!

www.snipe.org. Shipping added as valued. All prices USD\$

Rules & Measurement

SCIRA has held measurement clinics at the most recent World Championships in 1997 & 1999. SCIRA's Rules & Measurement chairmen showed measurers how to properly measure Snipes as well as discuss better ways to minimize measurement at regattas.

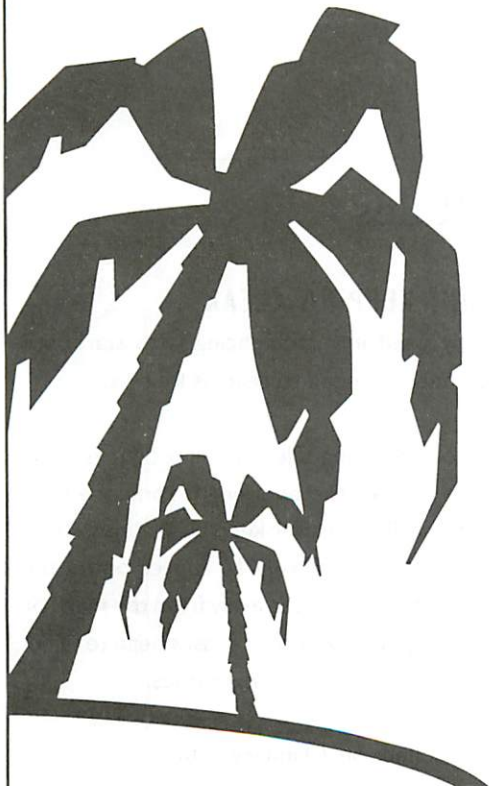
Measurement packets will be mailed to all measurers worldwide within the year, complete with one new set of measurement tools per country. Additional sets may be purchased from the SCIRA office. SCIRA will also implement a new sticker system whereby rudder, centerboard, mast, boom & whisker pole will be measured with a sticker affixed to each piece of equipment with date and hull number of the boat. If removed, the sticker will show "void" and will be unable to be used again. In addition, a larger "void" sticker will be placed inside the cockpit showing placement of ballast for weight.

SCIRA's Rules & Measurement committee's hope to lessen the amount of time measuring boats at regattas through this system.

SCIRA will also issue membership cards to all dues paying members. This card will be proof of membership in SCIRA. Boat measurement cards will also be issued for boat owners and may be kept together with the membership card in a handy plastic case. All this will be available shortly from the SCIRA office.



WINTER RACING CIRCUIT



SCIRA Mid-Winter Championship

March 12-14, 2000, 5 races
Gulf of Mexico, Clearwater YC, Clearwater, FL
Contact: **Bob Foster**, 2031 Otter Way, Palm Harbor, FL 34685. phone: 727-771-8744, fosterbob@juno.com

DON Q Rum Keg

March 17-19, 2000, 5 races
Biscayne Bay, Coconut Grove, SC, Miami, FL
contact: **Gonzalo Diaz, Sr.**, 5520 SW 72nd Ave., Miami, FL 33155
phone: 305-667-0492, gcdiaz@accesspro.net

Bacardi & Gamblin Memorial Series

March 22-25, 2000, 2 series of 3 & 5 races
Royal Nassau SC, Nassau, Bahamas
Contact: **Peter Christie**, PO Box N-1628, Nassau, Bahamas Fax: 242-326-5642,
bswestbrook@hgchristie.com
local housing available

The Zimmerman Perpetual Trophy, emblematic of the Winter Circuit Championship, will be awarded at the conclusion of the Circuit in Nassau.

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John MacCall, Argentina

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Changes to ISAF Racing Rules

ANTI-HUNTING

Following is the wording of the new Rule 16.2, devised at the November ISAF meeting held in Sydney, Australia.

16.2 In addition, when after the starting signal a port-tack boat is keeping clear of a starboard-tack boat, the starboard-tack boat shall not change course if as a result the port-tack boat would immediately need to change course to keep clear.

GIVING ROOM; KEEPING CLEAR

18.2 (b) (mostly used in match racing with starboard roundings) has been changed to read as follows:

18.2 Giving Room; Keeping Clear (b) If a boat is clear ahead when she reaches the two-length zone, the boat then clear astern shall thereafter keep clear. Rules 10, 11 and 18.2(a) do not apply, and rule 16 applies only if the right-of-way boat changes course away from the mark or obstruction. If the right-of-way boat passes head to wind, rule 13 applies and this rule no longer does.

Both will go into effect on 1 January 2000.

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CALENDAR 2000

International Championships

South American Championship	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	March 4-7
Midwinter Circuit -Midwinters	Clearwater, Florida, USA	March 12-14
Don Q Rum Keg	Miami, Florida, USA	March 17-19
Gamblin & Bacardi Series	Nassau, Bahamas	March 21-24
North American Championship	Spanish Point, Bermuda	May 4-6
European Championship	Oslo, Norway	July 24-30
World Master Championship	Horsens, Denmark	August 9-13
Women's World Championship	Trieste, Italy	Aug. 31-Sept. 3
Western Hemisphere & Orient	Rosario, Argentina	October 7-14

National Championships

Brazil	Rio de Janeiro	January 23-27
France	Le Havre	May 1-3
Uruguay	Montevideo	May 13,20,21,27
Sweden	Marstrand	June 1-4
Finland	Tampere	June 16-18
Italy	Lake Como	June 29-July 2
Norway	Vestfjorden, Oslo	June 30-July 2
Denmark	Lynæs	July 6-9
United States	Oklahoma City, OK	July 7-14
United Kingdom	Stone Sailing Club	August 16-20
Canada	Oakville, Ontario	August 19-20
Belgium	Brouwershaven	August 26-27
Argentina	Villa Carlos Paz, Cordoba	October 27-29
Japan	Nagasaki	November
Spain	Las Palmas, Gran Canarias	December 5-9

SCIRA

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Entered as second class matter
at San Diego, California

*****3-DIGIT 908

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