

Official newsletter of the Snipe Class International Racing Association



Snipe Bulletin™

Volume 26, Winter 2008



3 WAYS TO GET TO THE PODIUM

THE NEW BW-2 MAINSAIL

Years ago we introduced the successful FB-3 mainsail. The FB-3 is an excellent weapon for heavy teams in light to medium conditions. The BW design followed to allow lighter teams to go faster in medium winds and choppy water. This spring, we introduced the new BW-2 mainsail. The BW-2 combines the fuller foot section of the FB-3 with the choppy water design of the BW to create an open water shape combination that can be powered up and depowered with rig tension. With only a few regattas under the BW-2's belt, the results speak for themselves.



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FB-3

1st 2003 World Championship

BW

1st 2005 World Championship

BW-2

1st 2007 North Americans

1st 2007 US Pan Am Qualifier

1st 2007 Don Q

SCIRA Information

Commodore
Pedro Garra
Montevideo, Uruguay
pedro.garra@praxia.com.uy



Vice Commodore
Luis Pessanha
Porto, Portugal
lpessanha@coldkit.com

Secretary
Jiro Yamamoto
Yokohama, Japan
j-yamamoto-sndr@tbf.t-com.ne.jp

Treasurer
David Odell
Park City, Utah, USA
david.wanderer@gmail.com

International Rules Committee
Giorgio Brezich
Trieste, Italy 34143
Giorgio.brezich@tin.it

General Secretary - Europe
Stefano Longhi
Trieste, Italy
stefanol@sgmconsulting.it

General Secretary - Western Hemisphere
& Orient
Hal Gilreath
Jacksonville, Florida, USA
harold.gilreath@1984.usna.com



Executive Director
Jerelyn Biehl
2812 Canon St.
San Diego, CA 92106 USA
+619-224-6998
scira@snipe.org
skype: jerelynbiehl

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In This Issue...

Regatta Reports

2007 World Championship
2007 Jr World Championship
2007 European Cup & Belgians
Swedish Nationals
Garda Team Race
Belgian DWR

Articles

Board of Governor Minutes
National Secretary Minutes
Demystifying the Nominating process
Remembering Snipe Sailors...

Reports & Calendar

2007 Membership Numbers
2008 Racing Calendar
ISAF Fall Report

The Count: 23 numbers have been issued since the last issue; Portugal - 1, Japan - 8, Norway-1; Brazil - 7; USA-3; Sweden - 3.
Numbered Snipes: 30639
Chartered Fleets: 883

New National Secretaries

Canada: Harri Palm
motone@sentex.net

Columbia: Gustavo Tamayo

USA: David Odell
david.wanderer@gmail.com

Great Britain: Mark Antonelli
m.antonellihome@tiscali.co.uk

Portugal: Luis Guedes de Queiroz

Italy: Alberto Perdisa

Cover photo: Lake Wetter in Sweden. Photo by Tommy Svensson.

Next Issue deadline:

March 1

From the Commodore --

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR

2007 has been another successful year and I'd like to touch on some highlights:

Champions:

Snipe Winter Championships

(Clearwater, Miami and Nassau)

Over 60 boats combined

Introduced the Mexican team of Jorge Murrieta and Andres Akle (overall winners)

South American Championships

Punta del Este, Uruguay

47 boats participated

Won by Carlos Wanderley and Eduardo Chaves of Brazil

North American Championships

Bermuda

24 boats participated

Won by Augie Diaz and Kathleen Tocke of the USA

Ladies European Championship

Moscow, Russia

18 boats participated

Won by Ekaterina Bessonova and Alexandra Sokolova of Russia

Pan Am Games

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

11 countries participated

Won by Alexandre Paradedo and Pedro Tenoco of Brazil

Junior World Championships

SanRemo, Italy

20 boats, 12 countries participated

Won by Mario Tinoco and Matheus Goncalves of Brazil

European Master Championships

Lake Caldonazzo, Italy

Won by Giorgio Brezich & Stefano Longhi of Italy

Number of boats

World Championship

Oporto, Portugal

57 boats participated

Won by Tomas Hornos and Enrique Quintero of the USA.

Performance

A year ago, if asked, one would say Uruguay and Spain were the dominant countries in Snipe sailing, but this year, its Brazil and the USA as the countries to be reckoned with.

While the 2007 World Championships was just a three race series, one cannot ignore the fact that four out of the top 10 boats were US. Despite the fact that Brazil may not have shown their strength at the Worlds, their first place finishes at the Pan Am Games, South American Championships and the Junior World Championships clearly demonstrates the talent they have now and what's to come in the future. The Uruguayan fleet is still there with the Faglia sisters' along with Pablo Defazio and Eduardo Medici taking second at the Pan Am Games and fifth at the World Championships this year. Based

on Japan's performance at the Worlds, especially with Kenji Abe and Hiroshi Yamachica finishing second, one would have to rank them among the top countries as well. Surprises this year were Mexico and Chile in the west and Belgium and Portugal in Europe. Congratulations to all of our top performers. It is wise to remember that once at the top you become a role model for others in your community and internationally.

Promotion of Junior Sailing

Junior sailing is a subject very dear to many of us as the future of our class. To help encourage junior sailing and expand this category of membership, the board this year approved an increase in age from 19 to 21. The class has also agreed to hold junior championships at the same venue immediately before or after the open championships. This has already been scheduled for 2009 in San Diego, California.

Changes to Structure of the Board

Through feedback from the membership, the Board felt comfortable with the Long Range Planning Committee's recommendations to streamline the Board. The vote to do this was unanimous. The end result is a much leaner board (reduction from 18 members to 7), which we believe will improve efficiencies in making decisions and running the class on a day-to-day basis.

The Future

Moving forward we should be adding more countries and encouraging growth at the fleet level. We need strong leadership (with international vision) at the Board level and dedicated, hard working National Secretaries who have a flare for marketing. I truly believe we already have the expertise and if we all continue to work together, our class will grow in numbers and in the spirit of "serious sailing, serious fun". We should all be proud of our organization, as it really is one of the finest dinghy classes in the world today.

It has been my joy and privilege to be Commodore of SCIRA. I have learned a great deal in this position and it has provided opportunities for travel and allowed me to meet Snipe sailors worldwide. It has also allowed me the opportunity to give back to the sport I have enjoyed tremendously and I thank each and every one of you for your support - I'll count this as one of the great experiences of my life. To summarize, I'll borrow a phrase from one of the juniors I met at the Worlds in Portugal this year (nicknamed Ze) and say "Esta classe e muito fixe; Portuguese for "This class is super cool".

Robert Deukley

Meet SCIRA's New Officers

Commodore Pedro Garra

How long have you been sailing, where did you start, what kind of boat? Sailing since 8 in Optimist dinghies in Montevideo, Uruguay

When did you start sailing Snipes? In 1982 crewing for my Dad. I started to skipper in 1985, when 16 years old.

Significant sailing accomplishments:

3rd SA Championship in 2000 and 2001

2nd SA Championship in 2006

Academic background: Mechanical Engineering

Occupation: Director of PRAXIA, a consulting firm

Family: Married with Florencia Herrera, with whom we have a daughter of 4 named also Florencia

Other interests: No other...haha! Seriously, skiing, business in general, globalization

Your thoughts on the Snipe Class: The best class for regular people, with a family, work and thrive for top competition and fun.

Vice Commodore Luis Pessanha

How long have you been sailing, where did you start, what kind of boat?

I started to sail when I was 9 years old at Clube de Vela Atlântico, in Oporto (organizer of the last Snipe World Championship). My first sailing lessons and championships were raced in the Optimist class.

When did you start sailing Snipes?

I started sailing Snipes in 1978 when I was 13 years old, as crew. At the time, although still sailing in Optimist, I was always waiting for an older club sailor to invite me to crew in Snipe (the Snipe class was already well established in the Clube, with one of the most important national fleet). After trying a couple of other classes, I've decided to dedicate myself to the Snipe Class as from 1993.

Significant sailing accomplishments:

1st in a 2004 National Qualifying Cup,

4th in 2004 Iberian Championship,

4th in 2001 National Championship

5th in 1993 World Master Championship as Crew Competitor in 3 European Championships

Academic background: Engineer

Occupation: Operations Manager

Family: I'm married but have no children. My wife sails with me in Snipe since 1998.

Other interests:

To travel around the world and to enjoy snow skiing together with my family and friends.

Your thoughts on the Snipe Class:

'Serious Fun Serious Sailing' says it all! For me the Snipe is the best dinghy boat to sail as it is highly competitive without requiring being a professional sailor.

Also, the international activity of Snipe class highly encourages me to exchange experiences, discover new places to sail and meet Snipe sailors around the world.

Secretary Jiro Yamamoto

How long have you been sailing, where did you start, what kind of boat? I have been sailing about 43 years. I started sailing in Fukuyama City of Hiroshima Prefecture with Snipe.

When did you start sailing Snipes? 1965, it was around 43 years ago.

Significant sailing accomplishments: 1st 1994 World Masters (Masters Division), 1st 1996 World Masters (Masters Division), 1st 1995 & 1997 Japan Masters (Overall)

Academic background: Graduated the Faculty of Technology of "Tohoku University"

Occupation: I am currently retired. I worked 43 years at a steel making company of JFE Steel Corporation.

Family: One elder brother and two younger brothers, and their families.

Your thoughts on the Snipe Class: I strongly like Snipe on her shape, feeling in sailing, and Snipe culture shown by "Serious Sailing, Serious Fun". Promotion of the class is a permanent theme for us, because larger snipe family will give us with more pleasure & pride as a member of the class. The class shall be open and kind & respect to any kind of sailors who love sailing including such as beginners, old sailors. For realizing my thought, I like a word of "Think globally and act locally". SCIRA officers shall respect and hear the NS's voice.

SCIRA Votes in New Board Restructure

As a result of an absolute majority vote of approval, the Long Range Planning Committee's proposal to shrink the size of the Board of Governors passed.

SCIRA Officer & Terms

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Beginning Term</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Ending Year</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Commodore | 2 year | Pedro Garra | 2008 | 2010 |
| Vice Commodore | 2 year | Luis Pessanha | 2008 | 2010 |
| Secretary | 2 year | Jiro Yamamoto | 2008 | 2010 |
| Treasurer | 4 year | David Odell | 2005 | 2008 |
| Rules Committee Chairman | 4 year | Giorgio Brezich | 2005 | 2008 |
| General Sec – Europe | 2 year | Stefano Longhi | 2006 | 2008 |
| General Sec – WH&O | 2 year | Hal Gilreath | 2006 | 2008 |

Other positions

| | | | | |
|----------------|--------|-----------------|------|------|
| Chief Measurer | 4 year | Antonio Bari | 2005 | 2008 |
| ISAF Rep | 4 year | Brainard Cooper | 2005 | 2008 |

Appointed

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--|---------------|------|------|
| Legal Counsel | | Leigh Savage | 1996 | |
| Chief Info Officer | | Don Bedford | 2001 | |
| Executive Director | | Jerelyn Biehl | 1993 | |
| Vice Chairman, Rules | | Steve Stewart | 2005 | 2008 |

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www.skippersnipe.com

Sidewinder Sweden
www.sidewindermast.com

Kids win Worlds

The Championship that Almost Wasn't

In convincing style, the future of the Snipe Class led the way to win the 2007 Snipe World Championships. Tomas Hornos celebrated his 19th birthday receiving the Hub Isaacs World Championship trophy along with his crew Enrique Quintero, who was to celebrate his birthday the following day. Posting a 1-3-4 in the only 3 races to be held in trying conditions, Hornos and Quintero of the US solidly staked their claim as world champions amidst a formidable fleet of world, Olympic, hemisphere and national champions.

Mother Nature decided to rest the week of the Championship. On either side of the Worlds, the winds were perfect giving those who sailed the Milenza regatta the week prior a taste of stable Porto breeze. And as luck would have it, the wind freshened as the time limit for the last race expired. Thick fog and windless days prevailed for the majority of the championship giving the Race Committee the ultimate challenge of conducting fair racing under the Snipe Class rules with a minimum of 5 knots. The minimum number of races were held to have a championship. Were they "World Championship" conditions? –

There was no question that the ability of "the kids" was evident and decisive. Their total was 16 points ahead of Abe/Yamachica leaving them as undisputed World Champions.

Although there seemed to be some grumbling amongst certain sailors, mostly those accustomed to racing in breeze, in the end after putting themselves in Race Committee Chairman Joao's shoes, the best races under the circumstances were provided to the sailors and the sailors showed their talents in the light air.

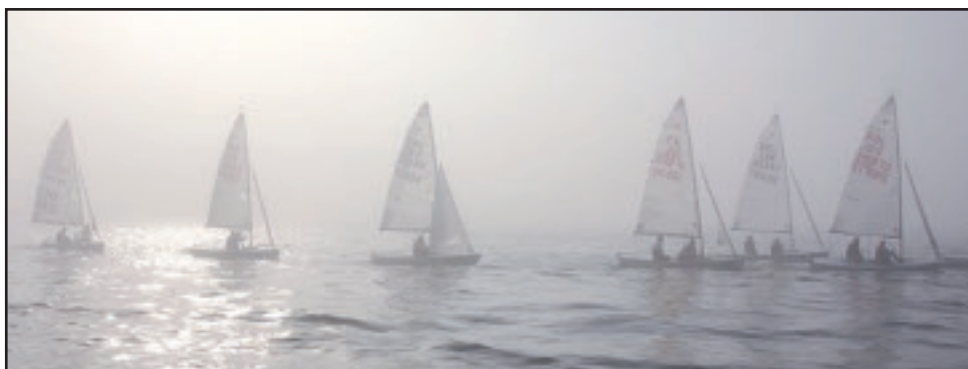
No one could argue the regatta management led by Miguel Cardoso and his large crew of enthusiastic volunteers had arranged arguably the best regatta possible. Two large tents with plenty of lounging chairs, computer facilities, bars, port wine tastings from the



no; but champions are not only those who can sail in steady or heavy breeze.

In 2005, the Worlds in Japan were also mired by Mother Nature's effects; a typhoon that decided to descend upon the venue creating too much wind, then leaving the sailors in a vacuum of air.

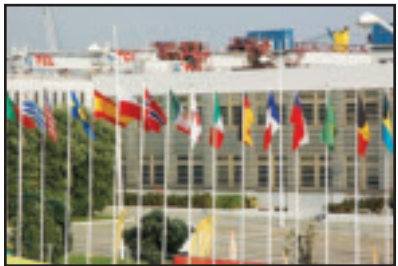
After the 2nd race, Abe/Yamachica were atop the leader board. The RC sent the competitors out to attempt a race. In light winds of 5-6 knots, 2 starts were attempted with a Z-flag penalty. At least 20 teams were caught in the fray, which carried over to the start on the final day, including Abe/Yamachica. With the pin end favored, the fleet began and sailed a light air race to complete the Championship.



local wineries and other amenities were the central "hang out" for the competitors. A large dock was built prior to the event where the majority of the fleet was grounded with ample launching facilities with many juniors ready to help with dollies.

Many thanks to the multitude of volunteers in Portugal that made this event a success - on and off the water!

2007 Snipe World Championship, Oporto Portugal



Photos: courtesy of Terry Timm & J. Biehl

| PI B# | Skipper/Crew | | Finishes | Total |
|-------|--|-----|------------------|-------|
| 1 51 | Tomas Hornos & Enrique Quintero | USA | 0,75-3-4 | 7,75 |
| 2 23 | Kenji Abe & Hiroshi Yamachica | JPN | 2-0,75-21\ZFP | 23,75 |
| 3 58 | Peter Commette & Sheehan Commette | USA | 15-7-11 | 33 |
| 4 54 | Augie Diaz & Mark Ivey | USA | 7-21-7 | 35 |
| 5 60 | Pablo Defazio & Eduardo Medici | URU | 11-5-21 | 37 |
| 6 4 | Bart Bomans & Jill Ponet | BEL | 5-17-18\ZFP | 40 |
| 7 35 | Diogo Cayolla & Rui Castilho | POR | 35-13-3 | 51 |
| 8 52 | Brian Bissell & Danny Pletsch | USA | 39-2-10 | 51 |
| 9 39 | Gonçalo Guerra & Tiago Guerra | POR | 21-12-22 | 55 |
| 10 6 | Alexandre Paradede & Pedro Tinoco | BRA | 17-23-17 | 57 |
| 11 59 | Ricardo Fabini & Frederico Waskman | URU | 19-11-27 | 57 |
| 12 42 | Pablo Fresneda & César Travado | ESP | 27-30-0,75 | 57,75 |
| 13 57 | Ernesto Rodriguez & Leandro Spina | USA | 22-20-16 | 58 |
| 14 20 | Shigeru Matsuzaki & Hiroyuri Sigiura | JPN | 9 -10-41 | 60 |
| 15 2 | Shoji Kajimoto & Nabuyuki Imai | JPN | 3-25-37 | 65 |
| 16 24 | Bahuru Kodama & Toshihiko Tanaka | JPN | 4-14-47 | 65 |
| 17 11 | António Poncell & Nicolas Valdivieso | CHI | 14-47-5 | 66 |
| 18 43 | Gustavo Castillo & Felipe Llinares | ESP | 28-15-25\ZFP | 68 |
| 19 10 | Felipe Robles & José Lopez | CHI | 29-16-24 | 69 |
| 20 5 | Emmanuel Hens & Enrico Michel | BEL | 18-6-46\ZFP | 70 |
| 21 2 | Nicolas Capdevila & Rodrigo Nisi | ARG | 24-19-28 | 71 |
| 22 8 | Victor Demaison & Alexandre Tinoco | BRA | 6-18-50\ZFP | 74 |
| 23 38 | Tiago Roquette & José Távora | POR | 10-42-23 | 75 |
| 24 46 | Raúl Valenzuela & José Latorre | ESP | 12-40-26*1 | 78T |
| 25 21 | Junichiro Shiraiishi & Takumi Nakamura | JPN | 25-27-26 | 78T |
| 26 9 | Bruno Amorim & Dante Bianchi | BRA | 16-34-29 | 79 |
| 27 45 | Rayco Tabares & Gonzalo Morales | ESP | 32-33-15 | 80 |
| 28 44 | Paco Sanchez & Marina Sanchez | ESP | 13-8-63\DSQ | 84 |
| 29 61 | Philipp Umpierre & Martin Puricelli | URU | 46-26-12 | 84 |
| 30 37 | Martinho Fortunato & Tiago Marcelino | POR | 31-9-46 | 86 |
| 31 25 | Tokuma Takesue & Kazuhiro Itou | JPN | 38-4-48\ZFP | 90 |
| 32 32 | Piotr Manczack & Tomasz Waszan | POL | 36-37-18 | 91 |
| 33 16 | Giampiero Poggi & Fabio Caccarelli | ITA | 26-35-32 | 93 |
| 34 47 | Alfredo Gonzalez & Cristien Sanchez | ESP | 34-24-42 | 100 |
| 35 50 | Jerry Thompson & Kevin Funsch | USA | 8-31-61\ZFP | 100 |
| 36 15 | Pietro Fantoni & Giovanni Stella | ITA | 23-48-32\ZFP | 103 |
| 37 36 | Diogo Talone & Pedro Pintão | POR | 49-38-25 | 112 |
| 38 30 | Jostein Grodem & Asbjorn Grodem | NOR | 42-28-43\ZFP | 113 |
| 39 19 | Yusuke Shindo & Kaname Hayashi | JPN | 44-29-40 | 113 |
| 40 27 | Jorge Murrieta & Andres Akle | MEX | 30-57\RAF-30 | 117 |
| 41 34 | Joaquim Moreira & Ana Champalimaud | POR | 20-63\DSQ-35 | 118 |
| 42 55 | Henry Filter & Gustav Wirth | USA | 53-46-20\ZFP | 119 |
| 43 29 | Birger Jansen & Cecilia Faire | NOR | 47-32-44 | 123 |
| 44 12 | Justin Frebault & Jean Frebault | FRA | 37-39-48 | 124 |
| 45 17 | Paolo Lambertenghi & Antonio Bari | ITA | 33-36-62\ZFP | 131 |
| 46 14 | Miguel Graça & Hugo Teixeira | GER | 43-45-45\ZFP | 133 |
| 47 22 | Takashi Hasegawa & Yusuke Tanaka | JPN | 40-43-51\ZFP | 134 |
| 48 1 | Ignacio Viña & Matias Viña | ARG | 41-50-43 | 134 |
| 49 28 | Jorn Haga & Anniken Bjerke | NOR | 50-49-38*2 | 137 |
| 50 7 | Henrique Haddad & Guilherme Hamelmann | BRA | 63\OCS-22-52 | 137 |
| 51 3 | Robert Dunkley & Shane Deppe | BAH | 48-41-53 | 142 |
| 52 56 | James Bowers & Kim Couranz | USA | 51-63\DSQ-31\ZFP | 145 |
| 53 53 | Gonzo Diaz & Adrienne Korkosz | USA | 52-51-45 | 148 |
| 54 48 | Henrik Jorhov & Lina Hamel | SWE | 45-44-63\ZFP | 152 |
| 55 13 | Thomas Jérôme & Laure Bourjot | FRA | 54-54-55 | 163 |
| 56 33 | Krzysztof Kluzka & Milosz Misiorny | POL | 55-52-63\ZFP | 170 |
| 57 18 | Stefano Longhi & Walter Loreface | ITA | 63\DSQ-53-54 | 170 |

TINOCO REPEATS AS JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPION

SanRemo, Italy
August 2007



Mario Tinoco of Brazil took over the helm and steered himself to another Jr World title. Sitting in the front of the boat, Mathaeus Goncalves took over crewing duties as Mario's skipper from the 2005 Jr Worlds, Victor Demaison, had aged out.

Sailing a tight regatta, the Brazilians scored 6 firsts in the 11 race series to secure their title.

Uruguyan sailors Nicholas Zerbino and Alejo Morales finished a solid second although the last race determined the final 2-5 standings. Americans Tyler Sinks with Nick Kaschak crewing dueled with fellow countryment Nick Voss and Tom Fink swapping final positions in the standings. Rounding out the top 5, host sailors Paolo Cattaneo and Vittorio Zaoli of Italy scored all top 10 finishes.

This was especially a special moment for the Zaoli family who come from a very long line of Snipe sailors. The President of the Yacht Club Sanremo was Beppe Zaoli, local sailmaker who happened to have competed in the first Jr World championship, held at Yacht Club Sanremo where he finished second in 1973. His sons Andrea and Vittorio have sailed in the past 4 Jr World championships, representing Italy proudly. Beppe and his sons are pictured in the accompanying photo with Beppe's 2nd place Jr World trophy and replicas that were handed out to this year's winners.

Also on hand to assist with the distribution of the awards was the son of the Jr World Championship namesake, Vieri Lasinio di Castelvoro.

Back to the regatta, 20 teams from 12 countries sailed on the beautiful mediterranean waters off Sanremo in varying conditions.



host of volunteers that made this regatta a success. YC Sanremo is keen to hold more Snipe regattas and the Snipe Class is eager to return!



2007 Junior World Championship SanRemo, Italy

| | Country/Sail | Skipper/Crew |
|-----|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | BRA29497 | Mario Tinoco/Mathaeus Goncalves |
| 2. | URU30643 | Nicolas Zerbino/Alejo Morales |
| 3. | USA28687 | Tyler Sinks/Nick Kaschak |
| 4. | USA28814 | Nick Voss/Tim Fink |
| 5. | ITA28765 | Paolo Cattaneo/Vittorio Zaoli |
| 6. | URU30464 | Federico Waksman/Rodrigo Cestau |
| 7. | ESP29923 | Alvaro Iribarne/Gabriel Thompson |
| 8. | ARG28963 | Nicolas Gieco/Javier Matheu |
| 9. | ARG28969 | Nicolas Capdevila/Rodrigo Nisi |
| 10. | BER27275 | Haley Powell/Martin Finegan |
| 11. | ESP28389 | Ruben Menedez/Gabriel Carreras |
| 12. | BER25707 | Lance Fraser/Catalina Sposato |
| 13. | COL29851 | Lorenzo Rojas/Juan Diego |
| 14. | COL30046 | Ana Maria Ramirez/Alvaro Ramirez |
| 15. | ITA27123 | Chiara Magliocchetti/Jessica Conti |
| 16. | ITA28863 | Matteo Guadagni/Enrico Prosperi |
| 17. | GBR30226 | William Williams/Tom Ditchburn |
| 18. | NOR29152 | Erik Wroldsen/Birgitte Reiersen |
| 19. | POL30536 | Jakub Dukat/Milosz Misiorny |
| 20. | SWE29236 | Tove Ekenberg/Anna Lindberg |



Photos: courtesy of Enrico Solerio and J. Biehl



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Takao Ninomiya

We are sorry to announce the loss of Takao Ninomiya who passed away on Sept. 9, 2007 due to myocardial infraction. He was 61 years old. It was a sudden occurrence. He enjoyed sailing just a few days before.

He was born in 1946 in Aichi Prefecture, Japan, and began his sailing career in his high school sailing club. He grew-up to a great sailor representing Japan and aspired to compete in the Olympics and also as a skipper for Japanese Americas Cup Team. Unfortunately, he could not achieve both.

He won the 1968 Snipe Western Hemisphere Championship held in Florida and won other 15 titles of various classes of National Championships, including 3 time Snipe National Champion and Snipe Japan Masters Champion.

He founded his own sailing club named “Kisyuu Yacht Shonendann” and recently acted as a leading sailor in the field of “Match Racing”. (Note: “Kishyuu” is the name of place of his residence, “Shonenndan” means “young boys group”)

On another front, he was also a famous novelist in Japan. In 1990, he received “the award for the best rookie of the year” of a famous Japanese novel magazine. After that he started his two lives; that of a sailor & a novelist. He published around 18 novels which were mainly historical novels.

We have lost a great, unique & beloved sailor in Japan.



Harold Gilreath

SCIRA has received word of the death of former Commodore Harold Gilreath in Mobile, AL, at age 78. Growing up in Houston, TX and on Sand Mountain, AL (near Chattanooga, TN), Harold began sailing as a member of the Sea Scouts in 1944. His scoutmaster was the late Owen Duffy (Snipe Commodore in 1951), and the boat the scouts sailed was a Snipe.

Using money saved from a paper route, the young Harold purchased his first Snipe and began racing in 1945. After a stint in the US Navy and a year at the University of Chicago, he graduated from the University of Chattanooga in 1952 with a degree in mathematics. During his college years he sailed with the Privateer Yacht Club fleet (Snipe Fleet 142) in Chattanooga, acquiring the Clark Mills-built boat Texan II (Snipe 8653) with which he had numerous racing successes.

Upon graduation Harold began work with Beech Aircraft of Wichita, Kansas, working for the legendary Ted Wells (former World Champion, Rules Committee Chairman, and Commodore of SCIRA). During his time in Wichita he became involved in fiberglass Snipe development. Here's how he described it in his own words: “(Ted) made it possible for me to be absent from my regular job at Beechcraft occasionally in order to supervise the full scale lofting of the lines for the hull plug. The plug was designed and built from scratch to be a master mock-up. We laid out stations, half stations, and quarter stations between station 1 and the stem. We were also able to determine the bevel angle on each frame. Francis (Lofland) and I built the master mock-up in his garage in north Wichita. Afterwards, Ted and I measured it to make sure we had a usable product.”

After this effort, Harold ended up with the first registered fiberglass Snipe (number 9753). He also served a year as Chairman of the Rules Committee while Ted Wells served a year as Commodore of SCIRA.

Leaving Beech in 1954, Harold moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he raced with Atlanta, GA Snipe Fleet 330 while working for Lockheed Aircraft. During his time in Atlanta, he spent two years building a plywood Snipe, detailing its construction in the book “How to Build a Plywood Snipe,” which is still in print and is available from the SCIRA Office.

And in 1956 he became commodore of SCIRA.

His son Hal continues the family association with SCIRA, serving as Secretary General of the Western Hemisphere and Orient and as a member of the Board of Governors of SCIRA. Snipe 8653 remains a paid-up Snipe to this day, and son Hal proudly sails that sail number in Snipe competition in honor of his father who made such a huge contribution to our Class so long ago.

Harold is survived by Hal, his sisters Jo and Suzanne, and his beloved granddaughter Emily.



Photo from the SCIRA archives: Harold Gilreath receiving a first place trophy from the Queen of Cotton at the Cotton Carnival. No date, but mid 1950's.

SCIRA Merchandise - Kevlar is back by popular demand!



Large Kevlar/Mylar Duffle Bags

Large duffle bag of kevlar/mylar sail cloth. Can choose ribbon strip of Snipe birds or the SCIRA crest. Custom embroidery of your club or sail number on the pocket is also available for \$15.00.

Price: \$80.00

Custom Embroidery: \$15.00

SCIRA patch on the pocket: No Charge!



Bathroom Travel Kit

Similar material as the wallets. Can choose ribbon strip of Snipe birds or the SCIRA crest.

Price: \$35.00



Snipe Wallet

A two fold wallet made of mylar scrim sailcloth with pockets for credit cards and cash, and a plastic picture holder. Velcro closure. Can choose ribbon strip of Snipe birds or the SCIRA crest.

Price: \$20.00

Order yours now through www.snipe.org!!

Patagonia Silk Weight T-shirt

These are great to wear on the water or in the bar!

Available in short and long sleeve

Sizes available: S, M, L, XL

Color: white only

Price: short sleeve: \$45.00; long sleeve: \$50.00



Technolite Reversible Regatta Vest

Fleece on one side, nylon shell on the other!

Sizes available: S, M, L, XL

Colors: red, navy, green, stone, black

Price: \$60.00



Low Profile Hat

One size fits most!

Colors: white, navy, khaki, red

Price: \$15.00



Competitor Jacket

Warmth for pre and post rigging!

Sizes available: S, M, L, XL

Colors: navy, hunter, red

Price: \$70.00



Floppy Hat

Keeps the sun out!

One side fits most!

Color: natural only

Price: \$20.00



Glacier Soft Shell Jacket

The ultimate in warmth & water shedding!

This is a great jacket!

Sizes available: S, M, L, XL

Colors: black only

Price: \$80.00



Easy care Buttondown Shirt

Great for after racing!

Available in short and long sleeve

Sizes available: S, M, L, XL

Colors: white, navy, red, light blue, stone
Others colors available – ask!

Price: short sleeve: \$35.00; long sleeve:

\$40.00



2007 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes Porto, Portugal September 9, 2007

Commodore Dunkley called the meeting to order on Sunday, September 9, 2007 at 9:07am.. A quorum was established.

Those in attendance were: Commodore Dunkley, Vice Commodore Pedro Garra, Rear Commodore Ben Van Cauwenbergh, General Secretary of Europe Stefano Longhi, Vice Secretary Europe Fernando Tajuelo, Rules Chairman Giorgio Brezich, Members at Large, Zibignew Rakocy, Kai Saarlo, Cliff Browning, Treasurer David Odell, US National Secretary, Barb Evans and Executive Director Jerelyn Biehl. Past Commodores Jiro Yamamoto and Jerry Thompson were also in attendance as well as Piotr Manczak of Poland. Those unable to attend were: Vice Rules Chairman Steve Stewart & Chief Measurer Antonio Bari (both were measuring boats); Members at Large Liz Crouch, Mariana de Isaza and Ricardo Lobato as well as South European Secretary Herbert Hoerterich, N. European Ola Nygard, East European Alexei Fomin.

A motion was made by Cliff Browning, seconded by Pedro Garra, to ratify all motions in the past. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Cliff Browning, seconded by Giorgio Brezich to approve the minutes of the 2005 meeting. Motion was passed.

The agenda was changed to move one proposal to the front.

Proposal 14: Long Range Planning Committee & Commodore Dunkley read the motion to the Constitution to restructure the Board of Governors. The motion was proposed by Cliff Browning and seconded by Pedro Garra. Barb Evans made a motion to amend Section 23.1b to read: the Secretary will serve 2 years, with the possibility to be reelected but cannot serve more than 2 consecutive terms. The motion was seconded by Cliff Browning. The Amendment passed unanimously. A suggestion was made to create a separate document to describe the responsibilities of each Board member and a committee comprised of the LRPC, Nominating Committee and Executive Director will create this document. The motion passed unanimously.

The full text of the new Constitution can be found on the SCIRA website.

A summary of National Secretaries Meeting was given.

Officer Reports

Commodore: Commodore Dunkley thanked the Flag Officers including David Odell for working with One Design Management and the administration of the Class. The Flag Officers had objectives to meet with ODM to consider compensation. The On-Line Registration, Website redesign, and publicizing the LRPC proposal were the 3 main objectives. Commodore Dunkley thanked the Board for their work and support of SCIRA.

European General Secretary: Stefano Longhi reported that the northern area is not as strong, yet the south and central portions of Europe remain strong. An explanation of the calendar coordination was explained with a separate calendar posted on the SCIRA international website. Stefano encouraged the Class to combine major events for ease of boat charters and competitors.

Western Hemisphere General Secretary:

The following report was compiled through individual correspondence, national secretary submissions, and a WH&O National Secretary conference call in August. Minutes from that meeting are available. Overall the WH&O has seen pockets of growth and an overall decline in general membership and activity. The recent North & South American Championships were well attended and evidenced participation at those levels. We are also seeing an increase in local fleet racing at lower levels in the US. The location and timing of championship events is critical for certain countries as this drives national federation funding. To that extent, the WH&O believes it is critical to support the Snipe class ISAF representation. The ISAF representative should be one who is willing to serve on a long-term as it is the need to establish relationships and promote the Snipe class must be done over an extended period of time. Central American and Caribbean Championships – Recent discussions indicated the desire to establish and conduct a championship regatta for this region similar to those for the North and South American countries. Puerto Rico is currently leading these discussions and is the potential host for 2008. SCIRA WH&O could use input on how to align this with the organizing authority for the overall Central American & Caribbean Games. There is burgeoning activity in

Ecuador, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. The availability of quality, used boats and equipment is the constraining factor. Championship regattas: NA: 2008 Cottage Park, Boston, MA, USA. SA: standard rotation per the Deed of Gift. WH&O – 2008: Punta del Este, Uruguay. 2010 open for bids.

Executive Director: Jerelyn Biehl explained the progress of the Measurer's Handbook, the On-line Registration system, 75th history.

A suggestion was made to establish a budget for the construction of new measurement jigs and a Board committee will research how to raise the funds to build & distribute these rigs to the builders. Also a suggestion was made to better inform the sailors on measurement issues concerning new and older boats, etc.

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report

David Odell reported that the overall Class finances are a fixed cost structure with a variable revenue base. Fixed costs are: ODM, printing & mailing of the Bulletin & rest. Cash reserves 2-3 years ago, were low. The goal was to increase cash equal to one year's operating expenses. Minimization of cost is the main goal of ODM. Revenue side is dues, royalty income. David is hesitant to suggest a dues increase as there is no need. Sail & hull number royalties are a main source of potential income. Membership base is reasonably steady. \$85,000 revenue budget with expenses in the same budget. Expect to break even or be slightly positive by year-end. A suggestion was made to publicize financial conditions.

Action item: Technical Committee to present a proposal to the Board to purchase measurement jigs for distribution to various builders. The Board will then study how to use revenues to support this program.

SCIRA International continues to be in good financial condition. We have \$19K in cash balances, and a clean balance sheet with normal prepaid assets and accrued liabilities. Operations continue to be well managed in 2007, with revenues and expenses running very close to budget.

2007 Financial Summary

Financial statements are available in an Excel workbook with this update report on the financial results of SCIRA International through June 30, 2007 as follows:

Income Statement 2007 vs. 2006 – this is a comparative look at our operations in 2007 vs. 2006.



Income Statement 2007 Budget vs. Actual – this compares actual 2007 results with the 2007 budget.

Balance Sheets – traditional balance sheets as of June 30, 2007 and 2006.

Cash Flows – shows our cash flows for the six months ended June 30, 2007.

Operating Results

2007 Actual Results Compared to 2006 Actual Results and Budget

There are no significant departures in the 2007 results from 2006 with overall revenues up by 2% and overall expenses up by 6%. The increase in expenses is tied primarily to the earlier travel expense in 2007 for the Executive Director to attend the two World Championships as well as the expense incurred to have the measurer attend an ISAF Measurer's Clinic.

We expect the 2007 year end to be in line with the 2007 budget with no significant variations.

Financial Position

Looking at the Balance Sheets, our cash balance is \$19K as of June 30, 2007, there are no long term liabilities and equity is \$37K.

The Accounts Receivable balance is reflected as \$13K. This is a typical level for this time of year. All amounts are deemed collectible and no reserve for bad debts is required.

Prepaid items totaling \$3K arise in the normal course of operations and include prepaid amounts for measurement stickers and year three of four on the SCIRA rulebook.

* * * * *

I hope that this financial report is informative and provides the necessary analysis and context for the Board of Governors to understand our financial situation. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like further analysis.

B. Membership Report

The on-line registration system: The SCIRA office and The Sylint Group have been working diligently over the past 10 months to migrate to an on-line registration & look-up system to enable our National Secretaries to self-register their members, print their membership cards directly and improve efficiency throughout SCIRA.

Although a large project, it has not been without frustration. Because we paid approximately \$6,000 in 2000 for a custom database, it would have been unwise to scrap this and move to a new system after

7 years of data had been entered. The challenge was to have varied levels of access to our database by National Secretaries and regatta organizers to perform these tasks while keeping the current database intact.

We were ready to go live this spring until we ran into a security issue with the port access on our server, which has caused Sylint to make a work-around. Don Bedford, SCIRA's Information Officer, has also been integrally involved to help maintain security for our member's information.

As of this writing, we are ready to do a final test and hopefully by the Board of Governors meeting it will have been introduced worldwide.

In addition to the ability for each National Secretary to enter their own information, edit and add throughout the year, they will also be able to print membership cards.

A further feature already available is the look-up of the status of a Measurement Data Sheet on file in the SCIRA office, which is constantly being updated with new information.

All of these features will enable our National Secretaries, measurers and regatta organizers to ascertain membership, boat registration and hull measurement on one database.

I want to thank the Board of Governors for their patience over these years, but this will improve efficiency across the board for the Snipe Association.

C: Junior Report

The Junior Committee supports the increase of the Junior Age Limit. A letter from SCIRA Japan was read supporting the increase of the age and suggesting the creation of 2 categories: "under 20" and "under 22" much like the Masters categories. SCIRA Japan submitted a letter in support of increasing the junior age limit which was read.

D. Promotion:

Pedro Garra reported that there was not much group activity after we carried out the organization of the World Snipe Day in 2006, but I am sure that every one of us has worked intensively in promoting the Class in our regions of the world.

Looking after Jerelyn's idea, we have lately been involved in gathering stories of the beginnings of the Snipe Class in every country. We have been very successful and got plenty of reports and pho-

tos that we are sure will make for a very interesting and promoting coffee table version of our Bulletin shortly.

We are now following and starting to look into the promotion ideas detailed hereafter:

Developing the Class in China: As the chairman of the PC, I have been following the contact of the company that manifested interest in building Snipes in China and promoting the class locally. There is no development yet.

Building Snipes in Central America: there is an ongoing project to build wooden Snipes in El Salvador. We are giving them full support through Jerelyn.

Developing the Class in Australia: A friend of Kai Saarhelo's is in Australia and willing to start the class there. We are giving him our full support through Jerelyn.

A new idea: the world quota system is not working as an incentive for growth. We will be conducting a study in order to propose a quota system that, while keeping the present total number of boats per country, sets more reasonable targets for all the countries to get one more crew in the worlds.

Jiro Yamamoto presented a paper on the possibility of Snipe activity in China. Other possibilities include El Salvador, Costa Rica and Australia. The committee will study the quota system for the Worlds and the correlation for promoting Snipes while keeping the total number of possible entries manageable. Possibility of researching moving toward an electronic Bulletin only and offer possible financial support for promotion to each country.

E. ISAF-no report

F. Nominating- The Nominating Committee is accepting names for consideration for the Board of Governors for SCIRA.

Depending on how the vote goes for the Board reorganization, we will prepare our slate of nominees based on the vote.

Please submit your names to any member of the Nominating Committee or the SCIRA office by October 15, 2007.

G. Rules Committee:

The RC is constantly keeping track of possible rules changes for the upcoming new Rulebook. The Measurement Clinic was successful and helps standardize measurement worldwide. Discussion was held on some problems with measurement at this World Championship and possible solutions.

H. Long Range Planning (see Rules)

I. Old Business



Tabled motions -none

Regatta schedule and bids

2008 Women's Worlds: David Odell made a motion to accept for consideration only the 2 bids that were submitted by the National Secretaries. Barb Evans seconded. The proposal passed. Commodore Dunkley asked that the 2 bids be returned to each NS for complete bids and re-circulated to the Board for a vote.

2008 North American Championship: Motion by Cliff Browning to accept the bid presented by Cottage Park Yacht Club in Boston, seconded by Robert Dunkley. Motion passed.

J. New Business

The following proposals were considered:

1. Section 15. Classes of Membership and Ownership

The Association shall recognize the following classes of Membership and Ownership: Junior Member: Members who will not be 22 years old in the membership year and who are authorized by the Association to skipper or crew registered Snipe Class sailboats.

Motion proposed by Cliff Browning, seconded by Giorgio Brezich. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Motion: that the Reichner Perpetual Trophy be retired.

Motion proposed by Barb Evans, seconded by Cliff Browning. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Motion: Rule 36: Boom

36. Boom shall be essentially straight and shall not be tapered nor have lightening holes. The boom ends may be cutoff with a maximum angle of 45°. The depth of the boom at either end may be reduced for access to blocks or boltrope. Only one boom may be

Motion proposed by Cliff Browning, seconded by Fernando Tajuelo. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Change the class rules to allow aramid or polyethylene (eg: spectra or Kevlar) lines in the jib luff wire and forestay.

Current Rule:

31. All boats must have a jib forestay and two side shrouds. No backstay may be used. The jib forestay must be all metal, either wire or rod or made of aramid or polyethylene line. The forestay shall be 2.5mm (3/32") minimum diameter, either wire or rod and must be fastened to a tang or other deck fitting. The length of the jib forestay shall be such that it does not allow

the mast to touch the back of the partner when the mast is restrained only by the jib forestay with shrouds and the mast push/puller off. The length of jib forestay and shrouds must be incapable of being changed during a race.

Motion proposed by Giorgio Brezich. Motion died for lack of a second to the motion.

5. Change the class rules to allow aramid or polyethylene (eg: spectra or Kevlar) lines in the jib luff wire and forestay.

Proposed by: National Secretary, Brazil

Current Rule:

51. The use of jib hanks is optional. If used, there shall be a minimum of 5 and maximum 10 hanks, one at each end of the luff and the others evenly spaced between them. If glove fasteners are used a maximum of 254mm (10") of the forestay may be covered.

- No battens whatsoever allowed in the jib.

- All jibs must be capable of being attached without disconnecting the forestay.

- The jib must have a wire jib luff wire or line attached to the luff while racing.

- The jibe luff may be made of wire or aramid or polyethylene line. The jib luff wire must be attached to deck and it cannot be moved while racing.

Proposal died for lack of a presentation of the motion by any Board member present.

6. Motion: add a new sentence:

Entry, Eligibility, and Measurement Restrictions

3.6 At Championships the measurement committee approves the conformity of boats. Thereafter the boat cannot be modified in a manner in which would require re-measurement.

Motion presented by Giorgio Brezich, Pedro Garra seconded. Motion passed with one objection.

7. Motion: Modify Z flag rule adding new section to Rules of Conduct

Starting Systems and Procedures

Race Committee may display at the first mark, or on the Race Committee boat in case of a general recall, the sail number(s) or bow number(s) of those boats that have infringed the rule.

Motion presented by Cliff Browning, seconded by Giorgio Brezich. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Motion: modify the prescription concerning Course changes

Weather Limitations (Course and Starting) 9.2 If during a race the wind and or wave action increases to the point where a windward-leeward course or leg of a course would be inadvisable (See Course Selection Diagram), the Race Committee shall display Flag "T" at the windward any mark (per Sailing Instruction 13.3) the course selection depending on weather conditions passing from W and/or O to T, but also from T to O or W. indicating two triangular laps when displayed at the end of the first windward leg or one triangular lap if displayed at the end of the second windward leg.

Motion presented by Barb Evans, seconded by Cliff Browning. Motion tabled on a motion by Cliff Browning in order to determine more specific language for changes allowed for courses when the wind decreases.

9. Deed of Gift – all Junior trophies

Vieri Lasinio Di Castelvero – Junior World Championship

Junior European Championship

Chuck Loomis Trophy – North American Championship

South American Junior Championship

Any other junior national Deeds of Gift Motion: adopt universal weather limitations Motion presented by Cliff Browning. Seconded by Giorgio Brezich. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Deed of Gift – all Master Events

World Masters Championship

European Masters Championship

Any National Master Events

Motion: adopt universal weather limitations Races shall not be run in sustained winds exceeding 15 knots.

Motion proposed by Cliff Browning, seconded by Barb Evans. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Deed of Gift – all Master Events

World Masters Championship

European Masters Championship

Any National Master Events

Motion: allow a drop race upon completion of 5 races

Motion presented by Cliff Browning, seconded by Barb Evans. Motion passed unanimously.

12. Deed of Gift – Hub E Isaacks Trophy

World Championship

Motion: include 4 entries: 2 for South American and 2 for North American champions and vice champions.

Proposed died for lack of a presentation of



the motion by any Board member present.

13. Deed of Gift – Hub E Isaacks Trophy

World Championship

Motion: Include an additional entry for eachboat in the top 5 positions in the last World Championship. These additional entries will belong to the country and not to the skipper.

Proposed died for lack of a presentation of the motion by any Board member present.

K. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm



Photo: Mats Akerblad

How Snipe Events are Chosen

Many sailors often ask, “How does SCIRA choose a venue for a major Championship?” especially when a championship has been held under trying conditions. Although you can’t count on Mother Nature for perfect conditions every time, the SCIRA Board of Governors goes through a thorough bid system that has proven relatively successful over the years.

For the major Championships (Worlds and Hemisphere Championships) there is a rotation system; Europe (rotating between northern & southern); Western Hemisphere (rotating between north & south America and occasionally Japan). If you look at the various World Championship Deeds of Gift, you will see a pattern of the rotation. Likewise for the Hemisphere Championships, rotating between northern and southern venues with Japan hosting when appropriate in the WH&O.

SCIRA first asked the appropriate Hemisphere to decide on the area and country to host the event. Bids are requested through the Hemisphere General Secretaries on a standardized bid form available from the SCIRA office. SCIRA relies upon the National Secretaries to recommend the best venue for the event based upon several criteria: facilities, race management experience and weather conditions. As SCIRA is a mature class with a long standing tradition of a strong National Secretary, SCIRA does not feel it is necessary to individually visit the venue to ensure it is acceptable; this responsibility lies with the host National Secretary. After consultation with the sailors of the area or country, the best venue is suggested to comply with the requirements of SCIRA and the appropriate Deed of Gift. As there are certain wind limits for Women’s and Masters events, care must be given to choose a venue that won’t be “blown out” or possibly with too light of winds.

Once the Board makes a decision, the National Secretary and selected Regatta Chairman are the main contacts for the organization of the event and are in constant contact with the SCIRA office.

While many feel that regattas should be the same, SCIRA feels that the individual customs of each host country are what make a regatta unique, and we encourage local influence with the regattas.

2007

National Secretaries Meeting Porto, Portugal Clube de Vela Atlântico

The meeting was called to order Saturday, September 8, 2007 at 9:20am at the Clube de Vela Atlantico by Commodore Robert Dunkley.

Those in attendance were: Robert Dunkley, Bahamas; Andre Callot, Belgium; Antonio Poncell, Chile, Kai Saarhelo, Finland; Sylvie Le Bour-Boisubert, France; Miguel Graca, Germany, Stefano Longhi, Italy; Birger Jansen, Norway; Luis Pessanha, Portugal; Jan Persson, Denmark; Pepe Perez and Elena Perez, Spain; Zibi Rakocy & Piotr Manczyk, Poland; Pedro Garra, Uruguay; Barb Evans, USA; Ben VanCauwenberg, Germany; Cliff Browning, Member at Large; David Odell, Treasurer and Jerelyn Biehl, Executive Director.

Greetings from Portuguese National Secretary Luis Pessanha. Luis discussed the logistics of Portugal hosting the Worlds and he anticipates growth in Snipe activity in Portugal.

Commodore Robert Dunkley welcomed everyone and thanked them for the growth of the Snipe fleet around the world, commenting on the addition of 3 new countries in the past several years. Commodore Dunkley discussed the reorganization of the Board and the importance toward the future of SCIRA.

A motion was made by Barb Evans, Birger Jansen seconded to approve the 2005 minutes. Motion approved.

National Secretaries Reports

Bahamas: 12 registered boats with 15 in the country. The main event is the Winter Championship with the Circuit. Development of the fleet is the future of the juniors. The Bahamas started a junior sailing program 3 years ago, expanding to other islands. There are approximately 80 active juniors. The Jr. Snipe Nationals were held recently with 5 boats. The Bahamas intends to use the Snipe as the next step.

Norway: Membership is stable with 4 very active fleets. Our nationals had 50-60 boats per year. For 2007 we had 48 boats and it was held in the southern city of Risør. The Women's Nationals have between 20-30 boats with 23 this year. Junior activity is difficult but we hope the increase in the age will help. We sent 1 team to the Jr. Worlds, 9 teams to the Master Worlds in the Bahamas and 1 team to the Women's Worlds in Uruguay. 28 teams competed in the Wibroe Cup and 1 boat in the European Masters in Italy. The west coast is active in Bergen. Learn-to-sail programs are popular.

Belgium: Belgium is in good shape. Last year we had 20 boats in our Nationals and our sailors travel around Europe. For the

moment we have 34 paid boat owners. The Snipe is the largest 2 person dinghy in Belgium. In August we held the Benelux (Belgium, Netherland, Luxembourg) Cup in Holland for the 470, Finn, Laser, Fireball, Spanker, Solo Contender, Flying Dutchman and Snipe and the Snipe was the largest fleet. There was a lot of interest to switch to the Snipe, and one Fireball crew has already. We hope to attain new members to the Snipe. The 420 National Coach is sailing in the Snipe and we hope to have some of the kids crew and sail Snipes.

Italy: the membership has increased this year. The Nationals were held in Gaeta last week with 45 boats and the dates affect participation. Italy has a bid for the Women's Worlds for 2008. The Italians host the Caldonazzo event with Germany and Poland, which is a good event for everyone with 50 boats. The Jr Worlds were held 3 weeks ago in Sanremo and was successful. Italy has started a regatta that includes go-kart, disco and cooking events in combination with a regatta. Italian sailors traveled to Spain & Norway to competition.

France: The situation is not strong at the moment as the decline in sailing is general. There has been a 10% decrease in sailing and reaching 30% for dinghies alone. Overall sailors are aging with fewer junior crews in France. The Federation has not been supportive recently. The French Snipe class is the smallest class recognized by the Federation. The number of Snipe boats with 40-45 registered boats in the last 10 years, we also have the same number of events (35-40) and yet the activity is dropping due to a poor attendance to regattas; 1998, 38 starts per boat; 2001 30 starts; 2006 22 starts (on average.) The main action to combat is communication through our 3-issue newsletter; the French website; attendance at the Paris boat show.

Denmark: The situation is not strong as we only manage to have 12-15 boats on the line which is the minimum for the Federation to recognize dinghy classes. Denmark as combined the Nationals with the Wiibroe Cup to increase participation. The Wiibroe Cup is in its 40th year. Dinghy sailing is not strong with no support for the Snipe. The Federation gave 1 boat to each club for junior sailors. Most Opti sailors want to become 49er sailors. We hope the sailors having children will come back to the Snipe now that they are raising families. Espergerde is the only fleet in Denmark currently.

Germany: SCIRA Germany is increasing. Beginning in 1998 with 4 boats and 8 members, we're actually counting 14 members and 10 boats. With the support of the Trento Sailing Association we're organizing each year the "German Open" which has become of the most frequented regattas in Europe. After about 25 participants in the first year there are now normally 50 boats on the starting line and they all come back in the following year, because they really get offered "Serious Sailing, Serious Fun." With the help of my good friend, John Broughton, we were able to bring the European Cup in 2005

to Lake Caldonazzo. Combined with the German Open there were more than 60 boats! John was also helpful in creating the European Masters, which was held this year on Lake Caldonazzo with 40 participants. Our contribution to the 75th anniversary of the Snipe Class will be the first Snipe regatta in Germany on Lake Ammersee, to be held September 8-9 with the participation of our Italian friends. There will be awarded a challenge and so I hope Snipe sailors will meet each year in September on this lake, near Munich. As SCIRA Germany is a very active group, I have every confidence that we'll find a new members in the future and shall increase from year to year.

Chile: 500 sailors in all the classes in Chile. The Snipe has 1 fleet with 27 boats at the Nationals. Mexico and Argentina also participated. Behind the Optimist, the Snipe is the most popular class. We have 15-16 boats starting with an activity following after racing. The Federation supports the Snipe but the 420 was recently introduced. Chile sailors have been actively traveling, crossing the Andes for all foreign events. The Federation has a plan for the next 6 years and they recognize the Snipe as the most popular class, so they support the Snipe. Our fleet has been renewed with Primex producing boats again. The older boats have been sold to newer members to grow the fleet.

Spain: The membership is stable with 200 boats with 300 sailing around the country. Members attended the Europeans taking the top 5 spots. 60-70 boats attended the Nationals although it has decreased from the 100 in years previous. 12 junior teams are strong, but the women's teams are not many. Spain is not happy to increase the age limit, but we encourage free hosting of the juniors in the Open Worlds to encourage attendance. Spain supports the measurement clinic that was recently held in Portugal. Spain has submitted a bid to host the 2008 Women's World. Spain would like to host the World Masters in Valencia where the fleet is 40 years old.

Uruguay: Membership has increased to 16 boats & 39 members. 77% increase in the past 2 years. The Snipe is the best option for the junior sailors with consistent organization shows strength. The Snipe is the class after the Optimist in Uruguay. 6 to 13 to 18 is the increase in junior sailors. Holding the Women's Worlds has increased women's participation to get women into sailing. A critical mass of women sailing attracts more women (which attracts more men!) Key aspects are consistent organization, year-round sailing & ranking system. Uruguay encourages juniors to sail with the seniors to increase their competency. Class sponsorship has been very supportive. The Federation does not support the Snipe financially, but Uruguay looks toward a future of full sponsorship to promote sailing in Uruguay.

USA: Membership has been steady with a slight increase of 50 members (700 members, 500 boats). 65 attended at our Nationals, the largest since 1999. Financial position is strong. 4 roles



have been identified by the Board: Public Relations, advertising & merchandise; Class Development Officer (help FC's and DGs), Int. Qualifications Officer; Regatta Quality Assurance position. Because our membership is diverse, the US is pushing the responsibilities down toward the 7 District Governors, giving money to help host fleet building activities. A new website and e-newsletter as well as a magazine are available for members. A member donated a large portion of money toward fleet development. A used boat donation program is in place to make boats available to newcomers. 30-40 people have used this boat with 5 new members joining & purchasing their own boats. The US is socializing the idea of opening the Nationals to non-residents. The 2008 Nationals will be held in San Francisco. The US will host the Jr and Open Worlds in 2009. The US has very few good SCIRA Representatives and is in need of building a bigger qualified list. US requested the assistance of SCIRA in developing a training program for SCIRA representatives.

Finland: The Federation nominates a Class of the Year and the Snipe has been selected after a successful Europeans in Pori. The SCIRA Finland Board consists of the NS and 7 members. Membership stands at 88 members, an increase from last year. 367 names are on the active Snipe e-mail list which includes 41 sailing related companies. The 75th Anniversary has caused Finland to nominate honorary members. Marketing is important to Finland to increase membership: boat show, website, communication including articles in magazines. Fleet activity is strong with 15 active boats in Helsinki. Snipe is active in multi-boat regattas to show the strength of the class. A Snipe flag can be purchased with the Snipe flag flown off boats at clubs. Calendar includes the Nationals and 5-6 Grand Prix ranking series. 22 boats attended the Nationals in Tampere, also promoting older boats. Finnish sailors travel to the Winter Circuit and other events. Kai suggested that newsletters from each country be sent to each National Secretary to share information.

Portugal: The objective was for Portugal to host a World Championship. 65 boats are registered with 30 active including past Olympic sailors. 55 boats were active in the mixed competition. The membership is younger with 2 becoming Masters in the next few years. The Federation does not support

Poland: Our activity plan is to attract juniors from the Cadet & Optimist classes; acquire sponsors and means for buying new boats. Through various events popularize the class among other sailing classes and local authorities, sailing authorities and the Polish Sailing Association. Organize annually the Nationals with the support of sponsors Primavera Polish Cup. Continue to organize a range of regattas for the Polish Cup series on weekends on various waters. Assist in the participation of members of Snipe Poland in various foreign events. Snipe Day-organization of regattas on May 30 in

other forms. Statistics: 15 boats currently sailing with non sailing (due to disability of owners); 29 members; 12 non-sailing. Plan to purchase 2 more boats. Polish sailors participated in the German Open, Belgium Open, Europeans Masters, European Championship, World Championships and European Cup. We are also in contact with the Omega Class, a 3-person class present only in Poland.

Sweden: We have 55 boats and 80 members which is a positive trend. There are a few new boats and crews (juniors too). We have had teams in the Midwinters, Norwegian Championship, European Ladies and Junior Worlds. We had 2 boats at the International Boatshow in Stockholm this spring. Our Int. Swedish Championship was held with the Dragon class and the Royal Swedish Yacht Club was a big success. Information about the World Masters in Malmoe for 2008: The Snipes will have a separate course from the Star, Laser & 2.4m. A special social program for sailors will be held, but they will also be able to attend the big ceremonies with over 10,000 participants in other sports. www.emg2008.com is the website. The invitation letter and NOR will be published this fall. Sweden will arrange to have 10 charter boats and we ask neighboring countries to help bring an extra boat for charter.

Mexico: We have 6 boats of which 3 are ready to sail, but we are fixing them. The Class has been received very well, especially by our younger sailors. They like the adjustments and tactical racing. We hope to sail more with the US as it is closer and less expensive. We want to thank Mariana de Isaza, Jerry Thompson and David and Susan Odell for their help in starting our Mexican Snipe fleet.

Great Britain: Membership remains steady at 30 paid members. There has been a resurgence of activity at one club, Blue Circle Sailing Club and numbers are also up at Budworth Sailing Club. The number of boats traveling to open meeting is likely to remain constant with open meeting turnouts at 11-12 boats with the exception of Budworth at which turnouts are approximately 30 boats. The UK Nationals were held August 31-Sept 2 at Stone Sailing Club. UK boats have traveled to France, Norway and Denmark this season as well as Belgium and a crew at the Junior Worlds. SCIRA GBR is holding its own, but struggling to attract new sailors. Generally there is a shortage of good quality second hand boats to enable people who have bought a "starter" Snipe to progress further which is causing problems.

Canada: At this time Canada has one active fleet at Guelph Lake, Ontario. The fleet has been built using second hand boats with hull numbers from the mid 24,000 to the mid 28,000's. There are 12 boats of which 10 are resident in Guelph. Of the 10 resident boats, three are owned by the Guelph Community Boating Club and used in the club's co-op sailing program. Over the last 2 years 3 privately owned boats were bought by sailors from the co-op program.

Four or five boats regularly participate in club races. The fleet has 2 open regattas, on ein May and one in June or early July when the water is high. Fleet members are active on the regatta circuit in US District V and District III. Fleet members are also regulars at Bermuda Int Race Week. Canada sent a Snipe crew to the Pan Am Games in Brazil.

Colombia: Three years ago the Colombian Snipe class had come to a stand still. No new sailors were getting involved and the participation in championships had reduced about 25 percent.

One of the reasons was, that some of the sailors came to a certain age and were not interested any more in sailing a small dinghy and bought larger boats, where they felt more comfortable. The other reason was, that the price of a new Snipe here in Colombia, due to taxes, is very high, as much as 300% of the original price, what makes it difficult for many to buy a new boat, and with their old boats they were not any more competitive.

About one and a half year ago, we started a program that was called "Adopt a crew". This means, that people who is not sailing but own excellent boats but do not want to sell them, borrow their boat for one year at least, to a crew that can not afford one, as long as they take very good care of the boat and complete a serious pre-established training program.

With this program, we got involved 5 new young skippers with their crews and as a result, we could send for the first time a Colombian team to the South American championship in Montevideo and 2 junior crews to the past Worlds in San Remo.

To lower the prices of new Snipes, since February 2007, SKIPPER SNIPE COLOMBIA, is building now with all the technology and support of SKIPPER SNIPE SWEDEN, boats of the same quality, but at a reasonable price as they do not have to pay the high taxes for the import. We are expecting that this will increase our fleets,

About the support we get from our Federation: as Snipe is included in most of the games of the area like: Juegos Bolivarianos, Central American and Caribbean games, South American games and Pan American games, it was established that Snipe is one off the classes to be sailed at our National Games 2008 next year, and this certainly will have the class expanded in other areas of the country.

In 2009 we want to have the South American championship to be sailed here in Cartagena and it has been proved, that nothing is better to increase the class, than having an international event.

So here, we see the future for the Snipe Class in a very positive way.

European Report: Goals included to better organize the European calendar and a separate calendar is posted on the Int. website to keep events from being scheduled on top of other events. Stefano asked each European NS to

2008 Snipe Racing Calendar

International Events

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| South American Champs | March 15-23 | Florinopolos, Brazil |
| Midwinters | March 30-April 1 | Clearwater, Florida, USA |
| Don Q | April 4-6 | Miami, Florida, USA |
| Bacardi/Gamblin/Kelly | April 9-12 | Nassau, Bahamas |
| Majsnipen* | May 3-4 | Gothenburg, Sweden |
| Wiibroe Cup* | May 10-12 | Espergærde, Denmark |
| Iberian Championship | May 17-19 | Oporto, Portugal |
| Musto Cup | May 24-25 | Oslo, Norway |
| Bergen Cup | May 31-June 1 | Bergen, Norway |
| Vaetternsnipen | July 4-6 | Sweden |
| Piada Trophy | June 20-22 | Cervia, Italy |
| Hangø* | July | Hangø, Finland |
| Benelux Cup | August 16-17 | Scharendijke, Netherlands |
| Vikingsnipen* | August 23-24 | Oslo, Norway |
| World Masters | Sept. 1-7 | Malmö, Sweden |
| North American Championship | Sept. 12-14 | Boston, Mass, USA |
| Vestlands | Sept. 13-14 | Stavanger, Norway |
| Women's Worlds | September 24-28 | Roquetas del Mar, Spain |
| Bærum Hostcup | October 11-12 | Bærum, Norway |
| WH&O | Nov. 22-30 | Punta del Este, Uruguay |
| Europeans | Dec. 1-7 | Las Palmas, Spain |
| Copa di Lucia | December 6 | Djursholm, Sweden |

*Nordic Cup

National Championships

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Brazil | January 19-26 | Santos |
| USA-Women's | May 9-11 | Seattle, Washington |
| Germany | May 16-18 | Lake Caldonazzo, Italy |
| Colombia-Junior | May 31-June 2 | Lake Tomine |
| Portugal | June 7-10 | Oporto |
| Norway | June 26-29 | Stavanger |
| Italy –Women's & Masters | June 28-29 | Verbania-Intra |
| Sweden | July 23-27 | Marstrand |
| USA – Junior | August 2-3 | San Francisco, California |
| USA – Senior | August 4-8 | San Francisco, California |
| Finland | August 15-17 | Hanko |
| Italy | August 19-23 | Sanremo |
| Belgium | August 23-24 | Scharendijke, Netherlands |
| Colombia-Senior | Sept. 20, 22, 27, 28 | Lake Tomine |



2007 Dues Paid as of December 1, 2007

| Country | Boats Paid | Members |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| Argentina | 29 | 56 |
| Bahamas | 13 | 21 |
| Belarus | 3 | 5 |
| Belgium | 33 | 60 |
| Bermuda | 9 | 20 |
| Brazil | 136 | 209 |
| Canada | 13 | 25 |
| Chile | 15 | 29 |
| Colombia | 26 | 43 |
| Croatia | 3 | 4 |
| Cuba | 5 | 4 |
| Denmark | 12 | 23 |
| Finland | 28 | 67 |
| France | 42 | 69 |
| Germany | 10 | 14 |
| Italy | 109 | 230 |
| Japan | 388 | 923 |
| Mexico | 6 | 8 |
| Norway | 116 | 194 |
| Paraguay | 5 | 6 |
| Poland | 13 | 29 |
| Portugal | 62 | 74 |
| Puerto Rico | 10 | 11 |
| Russia | 49 | 63 |
| Spain | 198 | 255 |
| Sweden | 47 | 77 |
| Ukraine | 3 | 3 |
| United Kingdom | 22 | 39 |
| United States | 523 | 756 |
| Uruguay | 16 | 40 |
| US Virgin Islands | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 842 | 3354 |

send his calendar to him to organize. European Measurement committee does not function and Stefano will bring this up at the Board meeting. Stefano encourages combining major events to make them more efficient with the availability of boats and crews.

Western Hemisphere & Orient Report: a conference call was held recently attended by Brazil, Puerto Rico, USA and SCIRA International with a report sent in by Canada. Discussion of the site for the NAs and SAs was held. 2008: Boston, Cottage Park. 2009: Puerto Rico. 2010 possibly Erie, PA. South Americans: following the normal rotation. 2008 Westerns: Punta del Este, Uruguay.

East European Report: no report

Championship Bids

Discussion was held regarding the position of SCIRA Representative and a request to have the Regatta Management Packet to be posted on the website for greater access and a summary in the Snipe Bulletin.

New Business

Persson Marine handed out a paper regarding the status of StarMarine & Persson Marine. A study has been made to create a world ranking list and Stefano Longhi & Ben VanCauwenberg will present to the Board.

The On-line Registration system was explained to the NS.

The new Measurer's Handbook and measurement process was discussed.

Thanks to Portugal for hosting the Worlds.

Discussion was held on the various proposals before the Board.

Snipe Bulletin: Denmark, Chile & France have not received.

The SCIRA Website it currently being re-designed. The ability to add more updated information will be added.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm

ISAF Spring Meeting Report

The fireworks at the Annual Meeting of the International Sailing Federation in Estoril, Portugal during the period of Nov. 3 - 10 came on the last two days when the Council of the ISAF dealt with selection of equipment to be sailed at the 2012 Olympic Games. As the representative of the Snipe Class to the ISAF meeting, I participated in the meeting of the International Classes Committee and attended other all-day meetings of the Regional Games Committee, Class Rules Sub-Committee, Equipment Committee, and the Events Committee (whose recommendations for Olympic equipment were overridden by Council, setting off the fireworks mentioned above).

Proposals in which SCIRA had an interest included a proposal to allow a class sponsor to have an area on the sails for advertising (rejected by the committee for the time being), a protocol for classes to submit their rule changes to the ISAF with a protocol for rejection by ISAF and re-submission (during debate I spoke against the measure and voted with the majority not to support it), and the moving of ISAF Regulation 16.1.6 to a new location in Regulation 18 (approved by every committee reporting on it). It deals with equipment approved for use in Regional Games and involves SCIRA since Snipe is mentioned by name in the regulation. The reason for moving the regulation is that Regulation 16 is an "Olympic Regulation" and that mention of Regional Games should be somewhere else in the Regulations.

There was also a several pages-long submission with definitions re-defined, everything from "boat" to "whisker pole." In this long submission I picked up the term "datum point" – a point from which everything else on a boat is measured. We have such a point in our Class, Point 0, but it is never defined as such. I have written to Giorgio Brezich, Steve Stewart and Antonio Bari suggesting that before our new Rule Book is published we note in it that Point 0 is the datum point for hull measurements.

The members of the Regional Games Committee are very interested in maintaining the importance of these games, they also expressed in debate their understanding that their support of regionally popular classes, such as ours, was one of their most important goals. Our Class has strong supporters among the members of this committee who are from Pan American countries.

All committees discussed and supported a measure that defines "Class Rules" as "Class Measurement Rules." The proposal, as submitted, was to require classes to separate their "Championship Rules" (we call them Rules of Conduct).

The Racing Rules Committee and Council approved two rules changes that will be in the new Racing Rules of Sailing next year, the most obvious of which will be the change of the "two boat-length circle" at a mark under RRS 18 to "three boat lengths."

–Brainard Cooper
SCIRA ISAF Representative



Belgium Celebrates 75 Years Snipe and the DWR (German Sausage race)

For the 4th year already, Scira Belgium under the leading organisation of Ben en Nadia Van Cauwenbergh, 30 snipes from 4 countries sailed the famous Dutse Wurste Race. 2 boats from England, 1 snipe from France, and 2 helmsmen from The Netherlands competed in wonderful sailing conditions against the Antwerp Fleet, trying to win one of the exclusive cult prizes...



13.30 First start : after eating some sausages and drinking some gluwain and some warming ups on the good old Tyrolean dance Music a ... a Le Mans Start... : 30 snipes on shore, 30 crew members on the start grid, a start sign given by Ben en Nadia, where Nadia had to shown her legs as the first start signal. The 30 crews sprinted to their helmsmen in their Snipe on shore, sailing first downwind to a gate. The first race was dominated by a Dutchman, Robert Drontmann , Ex-Olympic 470- sailor. Is this the first step to a Dutch Snipe Fleet?

14.30 Second start : again after eating some sausages and drinking some gluwain, a downwind start between 2 marks of shore. 2 possible tactics, sailing left or right on the small Antwerp lake, Jo Vos and Marjan won this exciting race.

15.30 Last start : yeah and again after eating some sausages and drinking some gluwain, an normal start on our good normal upwind-downwind course where again Jo and Marjan showed the rest of the fleet their super sailing talents. They did not only won the 4th Dutse Wurste Race but also they won the cult price for the most ugly Snipe. Manu Hens and Nico raced and won the most beautiful degized price. They showed their most creative talent by racing with some sausages on their head. Other prizes were given such as the master prize for Patrick Laumans and Marc Cornelissen, and also a prize was given to Jerome et Sandy/ Le pere et mere Noel as the most simpatico sailors.



After the race, all competitors could enjoy of a fantastic goulash dinner prepared by our teachers Jan and Ann (the Belgian version, ...Peeters) with video stream of the day.

This race together with the speculoos race (normal race on the day after) shows the popularity of the Snipe class in Belgium where the ambiance is succeeded by the involvement of all snipe sailors for all sailors. Serious Sailing Serious Fun!



2007 Swedish National Championship

September 17-19
Saltsjobaden, Sweden

| Rank | Nat | SailNo | Helm Crew | Club | Finishes | Total |
|------|-----|--------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--|-------|
| 1 | SWE | 30197 | Henrik Jörhov/Lina Hamel | Malmö/Karlshamns | (8) 1 3 1 2 4 5 6 7 37 | 29 |
| 2 | NOR | 29940 | Birger Jansen/Cesilia de Faire | Vestfjordens SF | 1 3 1 2 (31 BFD) 5 11 1 8 63 | 32 |
| 3 | NOR | 30498 | Ulrik Sandvig/Henrik Grythe | Vestfjordens SF | (23) 2 5 9 3 1 1 11 2 57 | 34 |
| 4 | SWE | 27696 | Ola Sjöstrand/Mats Gustfsson | KSSS | 2 5 4 (10) 1 6 3 5 9 45 | 35 |
| 5 | SWE | 27459 | Tomas Berg/Patric Wollmersson | GSC | 3 4 6 3 5 3 4 9 (10) 47 | 37 |
| 6 | SWE | 30068 | Per Edwall/Simon Edvall | KSSS | 6 (12) 2 4 10 2 2 8 4 50 | 38 |
| 7 | SWE | 29979 | Ulf Johansson/Dennis Fagerrud | WSSW | 9 7 8 5 4 8 (12) 2 1 56 | 44 |
| 8 | SWE | 30050 | Mats Göthlin/Rickard Oberpichler | VSS | 4 6 7 6 6 (15) 6 7 3 60 | 45 |
| 9 | SWE | 30584 | Bo Lindsjö/Bodil Lindsjö | Malmö SS | 7 10 (31 DNF) 7 7 7 8 13 17 107 | 76 |
| 10 | SWE | 30044 | Johan Strömdahl/Anders Olausson | KSSS/SSC | 11 15 10 12 15 10 (21) 4 6 104 | 83 |
| 11 | SWE | 29236 | Martin Holmgren/Jonas Byström | SSB | 5 8 9 8 12 16 9 16 (21) 104 | 83 |
| 12 | SWE | 30560 | Nicklas Torlegård/Emil Svensson | KSSS | 17 11 (31 DNS) 15 13 12 10 10 11 130 | 99 |
| 13 | SWE | 27452 | Jonas Wibom/Fredrik Rowa | Stockholm | 24 16 (31 DNS) 11 9 9 7 12 20 139 | 108 |
| 14 | ITA | 29934 | Roger Olivieri/Silvia Pederiva | SCIRA Italy | 13 18 (31 DNS) 31 DNS 11 20 14 3 16 157 | 126 |
| 15 | NOR | 29673 | Halvor/Edel Poulsson | Vestfjordens SF | 12 14 14 13 (31 BFD) 11 15 24 31 DNF 165 | 134 |
| 16 | ITA | 29935 | Sergio Irredento/Barbara Pozar | SCIRA Italy | 21 9 16 16 16 (31 DNF) 31 DNS 21 5 166 | 135 |
| 17 | SWE | 29862 | Mats Åkerblad/Håkan Wersäll | KSSS | 19 19 15 19 19 14 17 (23) 19 164 | 141 |
| 18 | SWE | 27251 | Peder/Ebba Friis | SSC | 16 13 (31 DNS) 18 8 21 31 DNS 18 18 174 | 143 |
| 19 | ITA | 29779 | Alessandro Bellotti/Giorgia Bellotti | SCIRA Italy | 18 (31 DNS) 31 DNS 14 14 13 16 17 22 176 | 145 |
| 20 | SWE | 29416 | Lars Burman/Georg Burman | KSSS | 22 (31 DNS) 31 DNS 22 18 19 13 14 14 184 | 153 |
| 21 | SWE | 29360 | Trygve Liljestrand/Jonatan Ameln | KSSS | 10 (31 DNF) 31 DNF 17 22 23 19 19 15 187 | 156 |
| 22 | SWE | 30637 | Mikael Nilsson/Christer Ridderheim | KKKK | (25) 17 12 21 20 22 20 22 25 184 | 159 |
| 23 | SWE | 30445 | Tobias/Charlotta Chronéer | WSSW | 14 (31 DNF) 11 20 17 17 BFD BFD 24 196 | 165 |
| 24 | SWE | 29243 | Jan Lindgren/Jan Frenne | | 20 22 13 24 21 25 22 26 (27) 200 | 173 |
| 25 | SWE | 12375 | Bernhard Rost/Richard Rost | KSSS | (DNF) DNS DNS 31 BFD 18 18 15 13 211 | 180 |
| 26 | ITA | 26831 | Maurizio Dalla Costa/Luigi Candida | SCIRA Italy | (DNF) DNS DNS DNS DNS DNS DNS 20 12 249 | 218 |
| 27 | SWE | 26482 | Sara Bäck Linda Wibom | Stockholms | 15 20 (DNS) DNS DNS DNS DNS DNS DNS 252 | 221 |
| 28 | SWE | 30029 | Johan Svensson Johan Karlsson | Motala SS | 26 21 (DNS) 25 DNS DNS DNS DNF 26 253 | 222 |
| 29 | SWE | 27809 | Kim Källström Douglas Roos | Ekerö BK | (DNS) DNS DNS 26 23 24 DNS DNS DNS 259 | 228 |
| 30 | SWE | 8260 | Bengt Harling Anna Harling | Espergaerde Sejlclub | (DNS) DNS DNS DNS DNS DNS DNS 25 23 265 | 234 |



Photo:
left: snowy day start at the
Copa di Lucia in Sweden.



GardaSnipe Team Racing 2007



trofeo 2007

comunicato stampa



GardaSnipe is a group of Snipe sailors sailing in the area of the Garda Lake. Maybe some of you already know us and have heard or read about our races. What pushes us in making all these efforts for the widespread of Snipe and Snipe sailing in our District, where our belloved dinghy is already well known, is that we are having great fun and we like when other people have fun sailing with us. We have District regattas with 20-30 boats regularly, but we like to experiment also new ways and formulas for sailing. On this wave of enthusiasm last winter our SCIRA District Representative and the



Commodore of the Ledro Yacht club have thought to organize on July 22nd the first XIV District Team Racing. The Associazione Vela Lago di Ledro has a rich experience in organizing Team and Match Racing, as they have organized many Italian, European and World championships of Grade 1. The sailing area of the little alpine lake of Ledro suits very well the Match Race and Team Racing, as the wind is very shifty so the games are always open up to the finish line. The Ledro Lake has turned out to be really ideal for this kind of race.

The GardaSnipe Team Racing 2007 is the first Team regatta sailed on Snipes in Italy and probably in Europe. The Snipe has resulted to suit very well this kind of race, despite it is a heavy dinghy and the reaction time is relatively slow. 5 teams of 3 boats each were at the start; the teams were organized mainly on the basis of fleets, as the Snipe activity is historically organized in fleets and we thought this would be a good principle for making the teams. The AVL Ledro Club with its local fleet managed to organize 2 teams, the first, Ledro 1, with the more experienced sailors: Massimo Cigalotti and Gaspere Inglese, Stefano Venditti and Paola Rognoni, Alfonso Donati and his young son Santiago. Ledro 2 was composed exclusively by juniors, all very prepared and competitive in Team Racing. Stefano Cavallari and Anna Gnuffi, Sandro Cavallari and Massimo Colotta, Chiara Spagnoli and Maria Pellegrini.

The Velica Trentina fleet from Caldonazzo had Andrea Piazza and the young Luca Pisetta, Silvano Zuanelli and Marta Pendesini, Alessandro Bellotti with his daughter Giorgia. The Cremona fleet was formed by Dario Bruni and Sonia Bonomi, Andrea Schiaffino with his father Alberto, Renato Bruni and Maurizio Boi. The fifth team, Garda, was formed by Roger Olivieri and Silvia Pederiva, Paola Bertelli and Roberto Signorini, Giuliano Demattè and the junior Giuliana Gagliardi.

We had a briefing with the umpires and judges (the Club invited professionals amongst the best we have in Italy) as for many of us this was the first experience in team racing. The umpires illustrated us the rules of team racing, the courses and they answered to our questions. The game soon turned out to be really funny. We had a four-sided course, with 5 upwind marks of different colours, and depending on the colour of the flag hoisted 3 minutes before the start we had to pass the mark

corresponding to the colour of the flag, then jump one mark, go downwind to the third mark and then return upwind to the finish line.

As this experience was new for the majority of us (excluded the local juniors of Ledro 2), not all teams entered immediately in the game of a team racing. Some teams sailed more fleet than team races, while other teams had a team leader who, prior to every match, decided together with the other team mates who to cover, the tactic of each race, often speaking with the other team mates during the race in order to take the right decision and plan together the best strategy.

With a good and shifty wind of 8-10 m/s with some gusts blowing even stronger we sailed the first 5 rounds while one team rested. Then the committee was obliged to stop for a while the races as the wind was too strong, while we had big fun planing on the flat water. As the wind blew weaker we continued the races. Very funny was also the pre-start, where we had real match races with the juniors of Ledro 2 very prepared and aggressive. 3 umpires on water guaranteed the correctness of each manoeuvre and the respect of the rules, assigning penalties when necessary. After the first round the Cremona team was first, followed by Garda, Ledro 2, Velica Trentina and Ledro 1. For the final and semi final matches only the teams of Garda and Cremona remained on water, while Ledro 2 and Velica did not sail the semi finals. For the final match both teams were very aggressive for conquering this Team Racing title. With a close control on every opponent boat the Garda team closing with 1st, 2nd and 6th place managed to win the race. Second closed Cremona, third Ledro 2, fourth Velica Trentina, fifth Ledro 1.

It is clear team racing is very different from fleet racing. We all have had great pleasure sailing this regatta: it resulted to be a useful experience both for rule knowing and boat handling. Despite the rounds were short matches of about 15-20 minutes each, the attention has to be all the time maximum.

This GardaSnipe Team Racing 2007 has encountered great satisfaction from organizers and sailors, as it resulted a really nice event, very well organized by the AVL Ledro Club

We will make all efforts for keeping alive this new GardaSnipe initiative.

More information and photos at www.gardasnipe.it

Photo: © Ezio Fonda / www.sailingphoto.it



European Cup and Open Belgian Championship

Scharendijke, Netherlands

August 24-26, 2007

The event was held over 3 marvelous days with sunshine and winds from 2-4 beaufort. Very close racing.

-Andre Callot
Belgian National Secretary

| | Country | Sail# | Skipper/Crew | Finishes | Total |
|-----|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | BEL | 30357 | Bart Bomans/Jill Ponet | 2-3-4-(14)-1-1-1 | 12 |
| 2. | BEL | 29613 | Bart Janssens/Eva Jacobs | 1-1-2-1-(3)-5-8 | 18 |
| 3. | BEL | 30388 | Giovanni Galeotti/Flors Mordelaans | 5-5-3-(10)-2-9-2 | 26 |
| 4. | BEL | 30311 | Ben VanCauwenbergh/Nadia Deferm | (10)-2-5-3-6-6-5 | 27 |
| 5. | BEL | 5 | Jo Vos/Marjan Manck | 3-4-1-6-10-7-(19) | 30 |
| 6. | BEL | 30265 | Thierry/Greet Den Hartigh | 6-7-(8)-6-7-3-4 | 33 |
| 7. | BEL | 30580 | Manu Hens/Nicolas Bongaerts | 7-(ocs)-12-7-3-2-3 | 34 |
| 8. | BEL | 30008 | Jan Peeters/Ann Van daele | 4-8-7-(11)-8-4-9 | 37 |
| 9. | BEL | 303 | Guy Celis/Nathalie Hambrouck | 9-(11)-9-2-4-8-5 | 38 |
| 10. | POL | 30536 | Piotr Manczak/Tomasz Waszak | 8-10-(18)-4-12-10-7 | 51 |
| 11. | BEL | 29115 | Dirk Hellemans/Joke Hellemans | 13-6-10-(16)-11-12-14 | 66 |
| 12. | GBR | 30316 | Allan Williams/Liz Crouch | 12-13-(13)-12-9-13-11 | 70 |
| 13. | BEL | 30479 | Alex Helsen/Dorine Walters | 11-12-(14)-9-13-14-13 | 72 |
| 14. | POL | 29973 | Krzysztof Kluza/Mitoszmis Orny | 18-(ocs)-11-16-15-11-17 | 88 |
| 15. | BEL | 30957 | Patrick Laumans/Kerem van Rensbroek | 19-15-6-(21)-13-16-16 | 90 |
| 16. | BEL | 30356 | Marc /Enge Cornelissen | 14-9-18-15-19-19-(20) | 94 |
| 17. | BEL | 29988 | Herman Feddema/Oliver Hambrouck | (dnc)-dnc-16-12-14-15-12 | 95 |
| 18. | BEL | 28151 | Bert Van Cauteren/Sarah De Canniere | 15-(ocs)-17-20-16-18-10 | 96 |
| 19. | GBR | 29611 | Sue Roberts/Steve Roberts | 20-17-(22)-8-20-17-18 | 100 |
| 20. | BEL | 30199 | Andre Callot/Eric Callot | 16-14-15-17-17-(21)-21 | 100 |
| 21. | POL | 29004 | Zbigniew Rakocy/Tomasz Sodecki | 17-16-20-18-(21)-20-15 | 106 |
| 22. | BEL | 26811 | Peter Van Osta/Rony Hoeykens | 21-19-(24)-23-23-23-24 | 133 |
| 23. | BEL | 27835 | Luc Springuel/Catherine Martot | 22-18-23-(24)-24-24-23 | 134 |
| 24. | BEL | 30369 | Raymond Meeus/Kris De Roedt | (dns)-dns-21-22-22-22-22 | 134 |



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Jorge Murrieta and Andres Akle, powered by North's new AP-4 main and BR1D+ jib, winners of the 2007 Bacardi/Gambini Series in Nassau.



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JAPAN +81 45 770 5666 Kei Takakuwa kei@jp.northsails.com

UNITED STATES

SAN DIEGO +1 619 226 1415 Chris Snow chris@od.northsails.com

CHESAPEAKE +1 410 280 3617 Brian Bissell brianb@od.northsails.com

SCIRA
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San Diego, CA 92106 USA



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