

IOMICA progress report 15. January 2003

Following a meeting between the RSD PC and the IOMICA Chairman, IOMICA understands that the RSD intends to move to the recognition of the IOMICA according to the following timetable.

1. IOMICA formally requests recognition, and provides supporting documents such as its constitution and regulations. IOMICA will do this in January 2003.
2. RSD drafts a memorandum of agreement between RSD and IOMICA, and submits it to IOMICA for comment and subsequent signature. This is expected in February 2003. The memorandum will formally document the standard ISAF procedures for approving class rule changes and for making class rule interpretations.
3. RSD publicly announces that, following the formal request from IOMICA, and following RSD's consideration and acceptance of the IOMICA documentation, it intends to countersign the memorandum of understanding thus recognising IOMICA and handing over class management. Part of this public announcement is expected to request comment from DMs and to initiate a period of consultation. The public announcement is expected from RSD in March 2003.
4. Following consultation with DMs, it is expected that RSD will countersign the memorandum of agreement and formally hand over management of the IOM class to the IOMICA on or before July 2003.

In the run-up to formal recognition of IOMICA, a number of other actions are contemplated.

The first of these is that RSD intends to publish the latest version of the IOM Class Rules, to come into effect on 1 March 2003.

Our understanding of the changes is that they are "tidying up of detail", and that no "major" changes are likely. In particular, the mainsail luff fitting that has been the subject of a recent interpretation remains legal, provided the wire is less than 10 mm in length.

Secondly RSD intends to formally authorise IOMICA to begin immediate negotiations with interested parties over future International and Continental class championships, starting with the European Championships in 2004.

This means that IOMICA starts to take over management of the class International events with more or less immediate effect. There is a draft of the current Class Championship Regulations which IOMICA intends to use -- these are modelled very closely on the existing RSD CCRs for continuity.

Finally, IOMICA intends to call an election for the Officers of its Executive Committee, with voting to take place at the IOM Worlds in Vancouver in early June 2003. Arrangements for this election will be announced in due course. We would be very pleased to hear of any early expressions of interest. All the 7 Exec posts will fall vacant: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer. Four vice-chairmen with responsibility for Technical, Events, Measurement, and Information and communications. I do not currently know of the plans of any existing Exec members to seek re-election, but I believe we would all welcome candidates. In particular, I welcome candidates for the office of Chairman.

Lester Gilbert
Chairman, IOMICA Interim Executive Committee