

International RS Tera Class Association AGM Minutes
Ljungskile SC, Sweden
Monday 5th August, 2019

Present : Helena Barne, President; Gary Finklestein, Treasurer; Emma Hawley, Secretary; Michiel Geerling, RS Rep; David Bailey, Technical Rep; Mireille Layland, Secretary RS Tera South Africa Class Association, Clive Layland; Freya Hansen, Danish National Coach; Darius Gerasimavicius, Lithuania Tera coach; Tera parents; Mr Thoudahl, (Denmark) Peggy Field (GBR); Alan Ringe (GBR).

1). **Welcome** from Helena Barne, Class President

2) **No apologies**

3) **Previous minutes.**

4) **Presidents Report** from Helena Barne - What a year we did in 2018 with the World Championship in Weymouth being a part of the fantastic RS Games with 148 competitors from 10 nations: New Zealand, South Africa, Norway, Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Great Britain and Sweden. During the RS Games there was a successful Regatta Fleet organised by Andrew Simpson Foundation Weymouth. The Tera sailors had a really great time at RS Games, one of the world's biggest ever dinghy racing events. The technical update of the Tera has been extremely successful. RS Sailing has done a really good job. The ongoing work to grow the class in more countries is always in progress. Future plans of the next years coming events are work that never stops. The committee has had a number of skype meetings to discuss the exciting future of the Tera Class. I thank my committee members for their contribution, especially for all the additional effort that was required of them to make the 2018 a very good year for the Tera family.

5) **Treasurer's Report** from Gary Finkelstein - no financial report produced yet, aim to have something together for the end of September. Discussed uncertainties at the start of the year as to the numbers we could expect to enter a World championships in Sweden. Started with a surplus in the International accounts of around 5000€, not a large amount. IRSTCA is a not for profit organisation, but always important to keep a surplus to cover unforeseen expenses. This year was unusual in that an agreement was reached with the host club LJSS that we would share some of the profit and the loss and the event could be scaled up or down depending on numbers of entries. After all fees have been paid, anticipate the Class will be left with a similar surplus in the account. We never look to make a profit, rather cover all event expenses.

Coaching wise it was decided to share the cost of the coach support at the Worlds between the UK & International class associations. In previous years this was subsidised by the UK Tera Class, but smaller numbers coming through the winter Class Association organised squad coaching meant they had fewer reserves. Revenues have been higher than expected so that should work out fine. Few problems securing public liability insurance for the Class as the cost has doubled, but we are still looking into quotes and how to afford this. Some

Classes do not have this as we expect host clubs to hold their own insurance. We will investigate this further after the AGM and try and resolve it.

Helena asked that by end of August, the financial statement is prepared and the insurance issue settled.

6. Appointments - election of officers

As discussed at Weymouth in 2018, Emma is stepping down as Class Secretary. Helena will be available to help a new Secretary settle into the role. Emma will also be available to help & advise.

Helena was considering stepping down at the same time but didn't want an entirely new team starting together. Helena will now stand down after the Worlds in South Africa in April 2020. Helena urged the committee and Class members to start thinking about possible candidates to take over the President position next year.

Secretary position – **Peggy Field**, Tera parent from Emsworth Sailing Club in the UK, was present as an interested party & was voted in with no objections. Peggy will take over after Sweden.

Helena asked for interest in the Treasurer's role also as Gary Finklestein's son is moving out of the Class. Gary recommended that the new Treasurer have some accountancy skills, otherwise it can be an onerous role.

Tera parent **Alan Ringe**, an architect based in Devon in the UK (Exe Sailing Club) stood for election and was voted in with no objections. Gary will oversee his transition to ensure a smooth handover.

Discussion about how other class associations organise their finances and how many signatories are needed for class accounts.

Decided that new Secretary & Treasurer should work together to find a way to operate in the future with both roles having some access to the Tera bank accounts.

Gary suggested an action point to look into the Sage system that we currently pay £30 a month for which isn't being used.

Michiel Geerling is to continue as the RS representative on the committee.

David Bailey is to continue as Technical Officer for at least another year.

7. RS Sailing updates

Discussion from Michiel Geerling about progress of the boat and markets. Ukraine is a growing market for the Tera and need to ensure their progress and events are reflected on the International Class website.

Romania has a small number of boats but the Tera scene is very active there. Just one Romanian entry this year, 2 last year, but hope in future years we will start to see more Romanian sailors enter our World championships.

The Czech Republic also has a small but very active Tera scene and they are keen for Tera sailors from other countries to join them at their events.

Emma talked about the growing interest in California in the USA. Lots of sailors with a few interested in travelling outside the USA to compete. Will be sad to lose our sole American sailor, Eoghan Gloster this year (attended our 2018 Worlds in Weymouth) and need to find and encourage the next generation. The North American Tera championships are due to take place at Dana Point Yacht Club (21st-22nd September 2019) in southern California and the North American Class Association is keen to host a World championships in the USA in the future.

Michiel reports that it is always a balancing act between holding a World championship in a country where there are no Teras in the hope it will kick start a new market or going to those countries that have shown a commitment to the Tera (as in the case with Sweden and South Africa). So, we feel as a Class that if there is a demand for the Teras to hold a Worlds in their country, they need to work with the International Class first. RS will always try and support initiatives. At RS Sailing, Dan Jaspers deals with international development and he is tasked with developing the RS classes around the world to promote RS boats in under developed countries that have small class associations to try and build a story. For example with South Africa, we can invite countries around that region to try and develop those tiny fleets elsewhere.

Gary complimented RS and its relationship with the Tera Class Association. Michiel suggested the importance of have some distance between the two.

8). Future Worlds and European Championships · 2020 South Africa

Mirielle Layland, Secretary RS Tera Class Association South Africa gave a presentation for the 2020 Tera World Championships.

Planned schedule - registration 4th April, racing 5th – 9th April. This falls over British & Swedish Easter school holidays (Good Friday is April 10th). South African sailors only need to take 4 days out of school and their sailors can then go straight into the Western Cape Tera championships starting on the 10th.

Location - Pine Lake Marina, an estuary, lake, marina & nature reserve all together.

Transport options – Mireille discussed flying into Cape Town from various European destinations. 4 hour drive east to the location, driving through the attract Garden/wine route or taking the coast route. Options to fly to Jo'burg and taking an internal flight to George, with a 1 hour drive to the venue.

Pine Lake Marina is a gated reserve with lots of accommodation options, facilities for parents and siblings, 3 pools, lots of sports activities for those not sailing. Safe & contained venue. Covers everyone's needs.

Clive Layland outlined costs involved – flights from European airports starting around £500 per person with a week's accommodation in a house at Pine Lake marina a similar price. South Africa cheap when you're there. Food costs very low.

Michiel – charter boats main option. Is possible to send boats out there. Private people don't pay taxes when bring boat back home but for RS, as a company, we do. If we send boats, they will be sold out there so will only go one way.

Gary – talk at last AGM about a subsidy for UK sailors to go to events. Michiel – we should have same arrangement to European sailors & cttc decide how we can support those who can't afford it.

Peggy – there is something unique about this class & how families support each other. Looking at the response of Tera sailors to the 2 South African sailors Ruzaide & Jowayden in donating money for their flights & visas, shows how great a Class this is . Could there be a chance to set up a bursary? Something to look into going forward.

Gary – the biggest challenge is numbers attending the event.

Michiel – top priority to sort out number of charter boats we can have available. Hoping to get charter boat booking online very soon with an early bird discount.

Going around table, what do we think? Danish coach Freya Hansen– my first thought was no Danish sailors will go, but now thinking there could be one or two who will want to go over there. All about the cost.

Michiel – last Worlds in South Africa in 2014, very small numbers but at the last Nationals this year, there were 28 RSA boats and there is a lot of interest from Opi sailors in South Africa to take part in a Tera Worlds South Africa.

Discussion about kids going over with a coach and a few parents so not so expensive – this happens with other class associations.

Sweden – not sure how many will go but like the idea of a team doing it with a coach.

South Africa Tera Class Assoc to put together small presentation to show to parents this week.

2020 Travemünde European Championship – 18th-20th July (TBC)

As there could be many who do not make it out to South Africa, the International Class Association is looking at holding a 3 day European championships as well in late July, to coincide with Travemünder Woche, one of the largest race weeks held in Germany, located in the Bay of Lubeck on the Baltic Sea. Initial plans are looking at holding a Tera European Championships back to back with the Feva World championships & the RS Aero Youth Worlds, so those sailors who compete in both boats do not have to choose one over the other.

Helena – had a question about having a Nordic champs – end of July/August – feel it is a good idea. Our suggestion is that we love the idea, but perhaps we can look at the schedule so we can ensure it doesn't clash with other events. Would be great to have a Nordic championship within Travamunde voche event. Michiel – good to think about a Nordic event earlier in year.

2021 & beyond – no country yet chosen to host in 2021.

Lithuania Tera coach Darius –developing Feva class for last 2 years and have only 10 boats and now going to international events. Prefer RS Tera to the popular Opi, as looks like a boat. All European classes have problem with the Opis as when kids sit in Tera, they don't want to get back in the Opi. Same with Fevas. There is change in Lithuania with Teras as

much cheaper than Opis but if you have Opis in your club you are considered to be a good club, but I am now working to sort this. Same problem in Estonia.
Lithuania would like to look at possibility of hosting a Worlds in the future, possibly working with the largest keel boat regatta in the country.

Helena finds Lithuania very interesting and a good way to grow the class on that side of the Baltic. Also interested in whether Denmark might consider hosting our Worlds in 2021.

2022 will be the RS Games.

Michiel – last year we said we would have the RS Games again, every 4 years and we would move it to Medemblik in the Netherlands. Helena – believe RS Games should be in other countries, so please look into Medemblik for RS Games.

Michiel – I agree, may be we need to ensure the opinions of the other Classes as feel Feva Class has a louder voice than ours.

Michiel we need to write it up that we are all in favour of Medemblik. Helena – great reputation with Olympic training and sailing.

Helena – need to let Tera sailing organisers know of our intention so they can start to re-build the Dutch Tera fleet up again. Lots of Dutch Tera sailors in 2015 when had our Worlds in the Netherlands, and then they moved into the Feva and I think it's a good way to get them back into the Tera. Future goal for the Class.

9) Any Other Business

Thanks given to Emma & Gary by the Ctte.

Swedish Tera sailor Alexandra Moller put forward a proposal to the committee. Alexandra is 18 & sails a Tera Pro but the age limit in the Class Rules is currently 18. She also sails a Zoom 8, which has an age limit of 20. Aero 5 too big for her, so feel limited by the options. Would prefer to continue in the Tera Pro. Alexandra proposed raising the sailing age to 20 for the Pro.

Discussions had about whether a change to the Class Rules was needed when we already encourage sailors to ask permission from the committee and we do have Pro sailors younger than the recommended age range. Peggy Field in favour of this and feels it's brilliant that you can have an 8 year old sailing the Sport rig and at the upper end, an 18 year old sailing the Pro.

Danish coach Freya Hanson, told of having an issue with the start age for the Pro – 2 sailors couldn't sail pro as not old enough. Emma – they could have approached the committee or me. Discussion about wording of NoR – “at ctte request”. Suggested tone of clause needs to be slightly less negative – we will look into the wording of the NoR going forward.

Michiel – every barrier there is we need to say we need to overcome those barriers to encourage more participants.

We need to have a discussion about the Class Rules & can we extend the age range and award an older sailor the Open Championship title, but they cannot walk away with the Worlds title if over 18. Discussed if we want to push this forward we need to vote and action this to put forward to World Sailing. Someone from the Ctte needs to look into the Class

Rule & suggest that we propose to change it or we change the wording from Worlds to Open Championship – so if we vote and approve it, the new description is sent to World Sailing and then they can decide whether we can do it.

Mireille – should be about weight not age. Brilliant that Alexandra came forward to the committee to ask for this change.

Helena – we will go through this process & we all agree on this.

Finally;

David Bailey discussion about supporting those sailors who can't afford to go to these events – perhaps a £10 subsidy on entrance fee to support sailors. Michiel keen to look at greater support for the smaller teams coming from Lithuania, Romania and the Ukraine. Suggested approaching these countries sailing federations to help send interested children to our events.

Lot of support for this. Mireille talked about the support for South African sailors Jowayden Jacobus & Ruzaide Kannemeyer.

Helena ended by calling on all International Class members to make the Romanian, Lithuanian and Ukrainian sailors feel most welcome and show them your support.

Next AGM at South African RS Tera Worlds, April 2020, members permitting.