

IOM Class News

Barry Fox, CRYA IOM Class Secretary

It is kind of the off season for IOM racing throughout a large part of Canada with no bigger events having been sailed since The Canadian Nationals in September.

But action has been going in in the background and you may have seen some of the news around that.

For the IOM International Class Association (ICA) AGM there were two positions up for election and we have new faces in those positions now. Rob Walsh (GBR) takes over from Olivier Cohen (FRA). Olivier has done a very good job of managing the Events Sub Committee for that last 8 years and continue to offer Rob whatever help he needs in coming up to speed on that front. Equally, Jeff Byerley (AUS) takes over from Robert Grubisa (CRO) on the Technical Sub Committee front. Robert has been a strong leader with that part of the association and has brought about a number of very good rule changes and clarifications during his 8 year term.

One of the things that Robert did some years ago, and that likely hardly any have read, is to document the history of the class and its various rule changes, particularly during the early years when a lot of refinement was needed. If you go to: http://www.iomclass.org/doc-files/Technical/IOM%20CR%20history/IOM%20CR_history_231110.pdf you can find an interesting (well it is to me!!) history that points out some of the reasons why the rules are what they are. Might answer a few questions for you.

A few housekeeping things were approved including removing the term limits from the Treasurer and VP Comm positions as well as approving a review of the organization Constitution and Regulations to maybe bring them into line with how the organization actually operates.

And, (drum roll), a resolution was passed that changed what the rigs are referred to be called!! Those of you who know me will have heard me tell you (or someone else) that if their boat had an A rig on it then it was obviously not a legal IOM because there is no allowance for that rig in the rules. I actually don't care what they are called and I also noticed that many different countries do call the rigs by letter designation so I proposed a resolution to change to the letter designation. And it passed by a pretty strong majority so when the new rules are issued, March 1 or thereabouts, we can all talk about A, B and C instead of 1, 2 and 3. Yippee.

Elsewhere in the Newsletter you will find the ending Ranking list for 2016/17. Going forward the 2016 points will come out and the qualifying events for 2018 will be plugged in. That isn't quite ready yet as I am waiting to see what Eastern seaboard US ION events are planned and add some of them to the list so that and Eastern Canadian IOM sailors can have more events they can attend more easily to stay in contention in the next round of ranking standings. That is an important thing to have in place.

Also, below you will see the list of known Canadian Regional and National regattas that are planned for 2018 at this point.

Mar 17-18	CRYA Western Regionals, Beaver Fever – Victoria BC
June 7-10	CRYA Canadian Nationals – Salt Spring Island, BC
Sept 8-9	CRYA Eastern Regional, Kingston, ON
Sept 15-16	CRYA Prairie Regional – High River AB

I think that will do the news for now. For the Spring edition we should have had one to the Regionals done and finished so more to report then. If you are among the few fortunate sailors to be able to keep sailing during the winter months, get that practice in. If you are among the rest, well, get that boat overhauled and ready to hit the water as soon as it softens up.