

**International Tornado Class Association  
AGM Notes 2013**

**Meeting started at 8.20pm**

36 people are in attendance

Steve Glynn, Tom Duckmanton, Michaela Dowley, Andrew Dowley, Alex Maier, Josef Gunkel, Wilhelm Guggenmos, Roland Gaebler, Nahid Gaebler, Faris Aznan, Lorenzo Bianchini, Stephen Hermanson, Phil Peterson, Allan Gamble, Paul Peterson, Kim Nichlas, Markus Betz, Niholas Betz, Stefan Lippert, Michael Papadopoulos, Alex Tagaropoulos, Nickos Mauros, Maria Tsaousidou, Jurgen Jentsch, Brett Burvill, Paul Raymond, Stefan Bernsdorf, David Gunkel, Sarah Steimer Klees, Kostas Trigonis, Iordanis Paschalidis, Sven Rausch, Andrea Ciavatta, Lee Harrison, Paul Harrison

**1. Apologies for absence**

Jens Haefner, Veit Hemmeter

**2. Approval of the minutes of the last AGM**

- a. Brett Burvill proposed and Alan Gamble seconded – no objections

**3. Presidents Report**

First of all I want to thank the Committee Members for the great work together this last year.

We had a skype conference practically on a monthly basis, most members were available every time although we had to adjust to times covering continents, from Europe to Australia.

We also had 3 ITA meetings, 1 in London in November, 1 at Lake Constanz – during the Europeans in May and 1 more meeting here this week prior to this meeting.

I especially want to thank Andrew Dowley, our secretary for his stamina, we were nearly in daily contact, he is an unconditional fan of the class and is part of the big face-lift we have made online, on the homepage, newsletters and in facebook.

Thank you also to our Treasurer David Gunkel for looking after our money so well, he has helped to consolidate our funds.

Thank you to my wife Sarah, who was decisive for things happening in Ibiza and my family for supporting me.

I enjoyed the job although it's been quite time consuming.

After a year our financial situation has stabilised, we have sold the ITA boat, spare parts and we have increased our membership numbers.

One of the main goals for me was to bring the national classes together and try to convince the classes that the ITA is not there for nothing and to increase membership numbers. We now have a Spanish class headed by Tito Amengual and Philippe Dupiereux as Vice president and Neus Torres as Secretary, we have 8 Canadian Tornados wanting to set up a National Class and an possibly an Italian comeback.

I think I have been able to achieve these goals here in Ibiza.

One Design, the Ballot and it's result has been a challenge since the beginning of my term.

Very few ITA members took part in the voting and we did not quite achieve the 2/3 majority. Also many were not ITA members and many had the feeling they weren't asked.

We now have a protest from 25 ITA members with signatures, these want to overturn the decision felled last year.

We, the committee after legal counsel of British Law, have decided to include the vote to overturn the One Design decision to today's agenda.

Secondly we want to secure the future of the Tornado Class and find a smooth way to make the transition from an Olympic Class (32yrs) to a semi-professional mix of sailors open and mixed.

The Tornado is like a Porsche 911, technically mature and with character.

Thirdly, improvement of communication through website and facebook activities.

More interactivity throughout national classes and adapting to modern media. More from Andrew later.

Here in Ibiza we have film and photo partners, you have probably seen them here on the big screen.

Also many thanks to Martina Barnetova for all her great material, she covered the Europeans, German Nationals and now the worlds! The ITA pays her Fees and owns the photo material so you can all have access to YOUR pictures.

A good example for the great use of her pictures were the double page in the Diario de Ibiza last week (38.000 copies sold), with the photograph of the Red Bull Team.

Highlights/Events 2013:

European Championships, Lake of Constance, Austria, mid May,

with 32 Boats from 8 Nations, Wind 2- 6 Bft, good Organisation by YC Rheindelta with a large tent and organised by our old Tornado friend Dietmar Salzmann.

German Nationals, Lake Forggensee, Germany, Segelclub Füssen Forggensee, beginning of July, at my club, of which I am the president. Joseph Gunkel was very involved and made sure we got some oktoberfest feeling in July!

32 Boats , 4 Nations took part with Caribbean weather in the Alps and winds ranging from 3-6 Beaufort. It was probably one of the best German Nationals we've had in a long time.

Austrian Nationals, lake Achensee, THWV Achensee, Beginning of August, 32 Boats, good Organisation as usual, in the middle of the Alps of Tirol, we didn't have that much luck with wind that time.

Now we are here at the Worlds Ibiza 2013, Club Nautico Santa Eularia, 30 Tornados at the start - Open und Mixed, the largest Mixed group ever! We have active nations from: Australia, England, Tcheck Republick, Switzerland, Greece, Brazil, Southafrica with Nationals.

Thank you to all.

#### **4. Secretarys Report**

Andrew added that this report is very similar to Jurgens, the only thing to add was a thank you to the sailors for supporting the class.

#### **5. Treasurers Report**

##### **Treasurers Report 2012 / 2013 (05.09.2012 - 24.09.2013)**

After the AGM at the World Championship at Lake Garda in 2012 the job of the Treasurer was given from Nahid Gäbler to David Gunkel.

The former ITA committee had two bank accounts, one PayPal and one at the Sydbank. The PayPal account was maintained in England. The balance at the date of treasurer change was 3.803,86 €. The Sydbank account was cancelled and a new account was opened at Raiffeisenbank Jungholz / Reutte - Austria. The balance of the Sydbank account at the date of treasurer change was 1.156,27 €.

After several discussions in the board meetings it was concluded that the campaign, getting the tornado Olympic again should be dropped. Instead the ITA will focus on the hobby racer, organize good sailing events and coordinate them well. In this structure it seemed beneficial to sell the ITA hardware stock and concentrate on public relations with special regards to the hobby sailor.

The following equipment was sold during the season:

1. - One (1) Tornado 2004 including Trolley, Mainsail, Jib, Gennacker, Battens and spare Jib. -> 15.000,00 €
2. - Two (2) Trapeze Trousers -> 310,00 €
3. - One (1) OD Gennacker -> 790,00 €
4. - One (1) GoPro Cam -> 80,00 €
5. - Additional spare parts ca. -> 596,00 € The following equipment maintained in the stock and will be sold in the next saison.
  - Two (2) Gennacker Booms -> ca. 250,00 € each
  - Two (2) Gennacker Socks -> ca. 140,00 € each
  - Two (2) Gennacker Rings - > ca. 110,00 € each
  - Multiple Harken Parts -> 600,00 €
  - Multiple Ronstan Parts -> ca. 400,00 € Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you want to buy some of the stuff. The incomes from membership fees were 7.828,77 € and the incomes from ITA stickers were 472,56 €. The incomes from ITA event fee were 3.590,25 € these incomes were spent almost for the sponsoring of at the related events (Photos, Movies, Music, etc.). However the payment of this fee is always difficult to collect. Right now the amount of 620,00 € is outstanding from Yachtclub Rheindelta for the European Championship 2013 and we are still pending to get the money.

The expenses were used mainly for the public relation. The following main tasks have been ordered:

- Photos and Movies for WC 2012 and EC 2013 -> 2.422,50 €
- New ITA Webpage and Media Storage -> 2.661,76 €
- ITA committee travel costs -> 698,80 € So we can close the Raiffeisen Bank account with a balance of 24.677,79 €, the PayPal account with 1.538,28 € and in cash remains 3 €. Outstanding is 620,00 € from Yachtclub Reindelta. This means a total amount of 26.219,07 € is available. Starting with a total amount of 4960,13 € this means an income of 21.258,94 € in cash. However it must be seen, that the main income regards to extraordinary incomes from selling hardware for 16.776,00 €. So the net income is 4.482,94 € only.

Report checked by Sven Rausch and Nahid Gaebler, Sven reported that there were no problems with David's report. Nahid seconded that.

Kostas proposed David's report and Paul Peterson seconded – there were no objections to the report

## 6. One Design Sails Protest and Vote

Josef Gunkel read a report from Veit Hemmeter, President of the German Tornado Class Association

Dear Tornado Sailors, Dear friends,

First I would like to thank Sarah and Jürgen plus the whole locally Team on site in Ibiza for the organization of this outstanding event for our class. I'm sure you all will spend a great week- both on the water and on land- on IBIZA!

Unfortunately my crew Nico and me were forced to cancel our participation due to a not shiftable business date. Even so I'm sitting in the wet cold Germany at my computer and follow the proceedings!

Jürgen asked me to write some lines to the new OD ballot:

When in 2009 the idea came up to switch to an OD sail, I also thought it would be a valid decision for the class in view of the chance for the re-entry to the Olympic games. The thoughts behind the idea were to cut costs, to equal opportunities and to present a more homogeneous picture to the medias.

Now, as we have lost the trials in Santander against the Nacra, we are in a different situation!

First I want to notice that I appreciate a lot that other countries like Australia had such a good acceptance of the sails. But in my capacity as the president of the german tornado association, I want and have to represent the interests of the german sailors.

Here I would consider it advisable, not to restrict the individual preferences within our measurement rules. It was always a part of the tornado history that somebody experiments. To this belong varied Sail-/Button- combinations, wich diversify a lot based on the area you sail.

In view of the next 2 years- that are very important for our coming progress- we get some serious trouble with the changeover between the old sails from to date permitted sailmakers and the new OD sails. The OD sails may be good in pressure and wave conditions but not on flat water lake conditions. So sailors who bought new sails in that winter will have an advantage over the boats wich have to buy new ones this or the next years. Normally when you take care of the sails you are able to sail them 2 to 3 seasons!

Because of these main but also other reasons I suggest the class to give every single sailor the choice to decide by his own wich sail he wants to use!

Finally I want to say that I see a big chance for the future of the class in the situation we have now. We are free in our decisions. The tornado has a big stability in his value. It is a boat wich you can sail with great fun in a broad array of wind conditions. The prices of used boats in good conditions are deep. With Andrew we have a great man to bring our class in the todays digital era. We try to make nice events on beautiful spots and the most important thing: we have great people!

All the best and good winds,

Veit

Since 2010 the class's situation has changed, the One Design Sails were seen as a good idea by all members to help the class become Olympic again and to control costs. Since then the Nacra 17 was the successful boat in the bid for the 2016 Olympic Games. Andrew has received an official protest from 25 ITA members asking for the One Design Sails to be removed, the protest is a part of the constitution and is needed.

Since 2010 there has been lots of talking about whether the sails should be One Design or not. The general feeling is that the class should not have One Design Sails.

Andrew explained that there are two options to move forward, the committee have checked the class constitution and have taken legal advice and can confirm that the Tornado Class committee members can remove the One Design Sails rule. The other option is for the class to run another official ballot to decide whether the One Design Sails stay or go.

Alan Gamble asked if there was anyone who could put the other side of the story. Brett Burvill explained that with the swing in membership numbers with the whole German class becoming ITA members and the discussion which has been going on for years there was no point in arguing the point for One Design Sails. The one statement Brett made was that since Pablo and his team at Ullman have introduced the One Design sails and the pricing other sail makers have had to reduce their prices which is nice to see.

25 people voted in favour for the ITA committee to remove the OD sails. Since this is the majority the ITA committee will take this decision forward and introduce a date for the removal of the sails.

Andrew made a statement to thank Pablo and his team at Ullman Sails on behalf of the class for their hard work on this subject since 2008.

## **7. Class Rules**

Andrew Dowley proposed that the Tornado Class licenses sail makers to make Tornado sails. Each sail built will cost 30 EURO per sail for an official ITA sticker which the sail maker will purchase in advance and stitch to the sails. All new sails would have to have a sticker for them to be class legal.

Allan seconded, everyone was in favour. This will come into place the day after the One Design Sails are removed.

Sven asked why if the stickers cost us £1 (at a guess) to produce and are sold for 4 EURO. Andrew explained that the cost takes into account postage costs from

the UK to locations all across the World. Sometimes the ITA make money on the stickers, sometimes they lose money but it all balances out.

Paul Raymond asked how the sail makers or club members will know, Andrew explained that this will go into the class rules which the sail makers should read before building the sails.

Kostas proposed that Leo Sanchez is added as the chairman of our technical committee. He has a good knowledge of the class and the rules. Kostas believes he is an excellent person for the job.

Sarah seconded all in favour.

*Meeting after note, Leo has accepted this position.*

### **Open and Mixed**

Nahid Gaebler has proposed and Dieter Salzman has seconded a proposal to add Mixed sailing into the class rules. This will mean that results are now split for all championships.

There were no objections from the sailors, everyone voted in favour.

### **8. Events and class promotion in 2014**

- a. Next year the European Championships will be in Travemunde from the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July as part of their 125<sup>th</sup> Travemunde week.
- b. Next World Championships are in Perth from 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014 – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2015. The first 3 days would be the Australian Championships as a pre Worlds. Racing will start on the 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> in case anyone wants to stay at home for Christmas. There will maybe be boats to lease, more information will come soon from the AUS sailors.

Roland Gaebler asked to say a few words. Our Australian friends have come to Europe nearly every year, once in your life you have to go and racing and you should also travel around. Australia is a fantastic place to go, I hope the ITA committee and national associations will arrange something to help the sailors with the transport of boats. Please, all sailors should try to motivate their friends to go to Australia next year.

Kostas also backed Roland and explained that we should support our Australian sailors who have supported our European events for many years now.

### **9. Election of Auditors**

- a. David has asked if Sven and Nahid could audit the accounts again. Everyone voted in favour and they accepted the position.

### **10. Election of Commodores of Honour**

There were no recommendations for this position.

## **11. Retirement of Officers and Committee Members**

Every year the ITA committee must stand down from their positions on the committee. There have been no new people asking to join the committee and there were no volunteers within the AGM. Everyone voted in favour of keeping the current ITA committee in their positions, no one was against.

## **12. The 2014 Committee**

President – Jurgen Jentsch

Vice President – Kostas Trigonis

Treasurer – David Gunkel

Secretary – Andrew Dowley

Technical Committee Chairman – Leo Sanchez

Technical Committee Member – Brett Burvill

Events - Sarah Steimer Klees

Events – Jens Hafner

Committee Member – Iordanis Paschalidis

Committee Member – Stefan Bernsdorf

Committee Member – Peter Gibb

Committee Member – John Ready

## **13. Any other business**

2015 Worlds – any ideas? The ITA committee are working on a few options.

2015 Europeans – Lake Lipno in Czech Republic

Alan asked what the wind limit was for the class, in Australia you can only get insurance for up to 22 knots – the ITA will check this out with insurance companies.

Meeting closed at 21:25