

2011 European Annual General Meeting (EAGM)

Tallinn, Estonia – 26 & 27 November 2011

Summary Report

The chairman and class representatives of the countries of the European Region of the Laser Class Association met in Tallinn for the annual two day meeting to discuss the activities and developments of Laser sailing in Europe.

Calle Lindfors, the retiring Chairman opened the meeting with a count of 16 countries present and apologies from another 5 countries.

A new Chairman, Jean-luc Michon from France and new Vice Chairman, Macrino Macri from Italy were both elected at the beginning of the meeting and welcomed by everyone present. Luc Dumonceau (Masters' coordinator) remains in his role leading the European Masters into another exciting year of sailing for 2012.

Following the efforts of the working group from last year to research the key areas for development and progression in the European Laser Class, it was agreed that the previous positions of Women's coordinator and Laser 4.7 & Youth coordinator should be replaced on a needs basis with individual people to perform specific tasks. This will allow the region to be more flexible in its approach to the changing needs of the European Laser Class.

The European Laser Class generated a small surplus of £5,090 GBP in 2011. However, it was recognised by the meeting that presently the European Laser Class needs the continuing support of Laser Performance in 2012 and 2013. As such it was agreed that Heini Wellmann will help in working with Laser Performance. It was discussed and agreed that the European Executive should work to find alternative financial income to reduce the dependency upon Laser Performance in the future.

The European Laser Class presently holds in reserves £50,072, which is approximately €58,655.

After an interesting discussion focused on improving the presence of women's racing in the region the EAGM decided to create a new European Championship. Starting in 2012, the European Laser Radial Women's Under 21 Championship will be for sailors aged 17, 18, 19 or 20 years old in the championship year. The Championship will normally run alongside the European Laser Standard Men's Under 21 Championship. In 2012, this new Championship will be part of the Championships happening in Nieuwpoort, Belgium in August. More information will be available on the web site shortly.

As no clubs have been able to bid to host the new Laser Radial Women's Under 21 Championship in 2014 the European meeting decided a shortened bid window should be opened for the new Championship pairing in 2014. Please look out for the European circular about bidding for the 2014 European Laser Under 21 Championships shortly.

Following the new procedure for selection of championships, the meeting confirmed the championship selection for 2013 and short-listed 3 venues, where possible, for each of the 2014 championships.

The confirmed venues for the 2013 European Championships:

2013 European Laser Radial Youth Championship

Mornar Split, Croatia

2013 European Laser Senior Championships (Radial Men & Women & Standard Seniors)

Dun Laoghaire, Ireland

2013 European Laser 4.7 Youth Championship & 2013 European Laser Standard Men's Under 21 and Laser Radial Women's Under 21 Championships

Balatonfüred, Hungary

2013 European Laser Masters Championship

Royal Swedish Yacht Club, Sweden

The short-listed venues for 2014, below, will be inspected during 2012 with reports produced and reviewed at the next EAGM before a selection of the preferred venue is made for each championship. This list will be subject to change once bids have been received for the new European Laser Under 21 Championships.

2014 European Laser Radial Youth Championship

Split, Croatia
Moss, Norway
Gdynia, Poland

2014 European Laser Senior Championships (Radial Men & Women & Standard Seniors)

Split, Croatia
Gdynia, Poland

2014 European Laser 4.7 Youth Championship

Gdynia, Poland

2014 European Laser Standard Men's Under 21 and Laser Radial Women's Under 21 Championships

This is a new championship & will be opened for bids shortly.

2014 European Laser Masters Championship

Knokke – Heist, Belgium
Balatonfüred, Hungary
Calella, Spain

Following feedback and discussion from the 2011 European Laser 4.7 Championship a new working group chaired by Macrino Macri (Italy) and including Karel Van Asselt (Netherlands) and Zlatko Jakelic (Croatia) will review and reformulate the requirements and bid process for European Championships.

Jean-luc Michon, thanked the Estonian Laser Class for providing a well organised and great meeting venue and thanked the many national Laser Class officers present for all their efforts and hard work as volunteers each year.

The selection of the date and venue for the next EAGM was deferred to be decided by email.