

PROPOSALS TO THE IDNIYRA CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS 2016

PROPOSAL #1

MODIFY THE LANGUAGE OF IDNIYRA CONSTITUTION

Modify the language of Article VIII

IDNIYRA CONSTITUTION : ARTICLE VII

ORIGINAL TEXT:

The Annual Meeting shall be held during and in the vicinity of the North American Regatta, if possible. Special meetings may be called on the order of the Governing Committee or upon demand in writing by twenty-five percent of the membership.

PROPOSED: (NEW IN RED)

The Annual Meeting shall be held during and in the vicinity of the **North American Championships, or the DN World Championship when held in North America if possible**. Special meetings may be called on the order of the Governing Committee or upon demand in writing by twenty-five percent of the membership. Exact time and place of all meetings shall be fixed by the Governing Committee. If a special meeting is called, the purpose thereof must be stated in such form as to permit voting by mail, and no other business may be transacted. All proposals to be made at the IDNIYRA Annual Meeting shall be submitted to the Governing Committee in writing ninety (90) days prior to the meeting. All proposals so submitted must be published in the DN newsletter by December 15. A quorum at a meeting is any number present. However, if less than twenty percent of the then-paid membership is present, all action must be ratified (unless rejected) by a mail vote. In addition, any action requiring a majority of two-thirds (such as amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws, or changes in the Official Specifications or Racing Rules) shall be put to a mail vote, regardless of the number present at the Annual Meeting. All meetings shall be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

Discussion: Proposal #1 - Change first sentence of Constitution Article VIII to make it easier for the Governing Committee to hold successful, well-attended annual meetings.

During years that the Worlds are held in North America, the wording has caused the annual meeting to be delayed until after the first day of the NAC's. This resulted in lower turnout, potential of abandonment if snowed out during first day of NAC's, and also does not allow the governing committee to take advantage of "lay-days" or shortened sailing days. Last year, I discovered the wording "North American Regatta" in this context which is not used anywhere else in the constitution or By-laws. "North American Championship" would refer by my interpretation, specifically to that particular regatta, Where "North American Regatta" could be interpreted as either the Gold cup or NAC (or for that matter any regatta held in North America). This change should make it easier for the Governing Committee to hold successful, well-attended annual meetings.

Submitted by Kent Baker US5219

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PROPOSAL #2

MODIFY THE LANGUAGE OF IDNIYRA BYLAWS

Modify the language of General Bylaw 12

IDNIYRA BYLAWS: GENERAL 12

ORIGINAL TEXT:

The IDNIYRA is an amateur racing association. It is managed by volunteers and is financially self-sufficient. To preserve this character, the IDNIYRA and its members will not participate in commercial promotion at IDNIYRA events. The IDNIYRA recognizes the importance of suppliers of DN sailing products. The relationship between the IDNIYRA and DN suppliers may include: support of raffles, advertising of DN related products and supplier listings in IDNIYRA publications, and other similar activities in keeping with the character of the IDNIYRA

PROPOSED: (NEW IN RED)

The IDNIYRA is an amateur racing association. It is managed by volunteers and is financially self-sufficient. To preserve this character, the IDNIYRA and its members will not participate in commercial promotion at IDNIYRA events. The IDNIYRA recognizes the importance of suppliers of DN sailing products. The relationship between the IDNIYRA and DN suppliers may include: support of raffles, advertising of DN related products and supplier listings in IDNIYRA publications, and other similar activities in keeping with the character of the IDNIYRA. **The Board, by unanimous vote may allow commercial promotion at IDNIYRA events, so long as said sponsorship shall benefit the organization as a whole, and not any individual competitor or group of sailors.**

Discussion: Proposal #2- Modify the language of General Bylaw 12 to allow Governing Board to approve commercial promotion when it benefits the organization as a whole.

The good of the class, as a whole needs to be considered. First of all, similar winter events in other sports have few (if any) restrictions on sponsorships. This allows for cheaper entry fees, reduced hotel costs, and better social activities. While iceboating has certain difficulties in attaining sponsorship's and low rates (namely, the probability of last minute venue selections), we shouldn't have to make decisions that go against this bylaw in order to try new ideas that may promote the sport, increase its visibility, or help the bottom line. I would hate to see a future commodore's hands tied in this possible method of increasing participation and visibility.

Submitted by Kent Baker US5219