

# CEEFIE Policy

## The Committee for the Election of an Effective IRSA Executive

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### Introduction

We are a group of radio sailors who are seeking to reinvigorate IRSA.

We intend to transform IRSA into an organisation which transparently governs its International Classes and administers the rules of and for international radio sailing. We will seek to restructure IRSA and its executive committee to meet these ambitions.

We will seek the nomination and then the election of these candidates for the IRSA Executive Committee (list to be expanded as the campaign develops and interested candidates join):

Graham Bantock  
Lester Gilbert

### Current concerns

We are concerned about the current state of IRSA and the Executive Committee functions. Some facts and observations are:

- RSD/IRSA has not published its accounts since 1 November 2009.
- Only one meeting of the Executive Committee (in April 2013) has been publicly minuted since 21 December 2011. In particular, the 2012 General Assembly remains unminuted and its resolutions not publicly known.
- Contrary to the stipulations of the “Regulations”, there are no annual reports of the various IRSA committees for the years 2010, 2011, or 2012.
- The current “Regulations” are dated 2003. They refer to RSD, an organisation which no longer exists, and to the Division Members of this non-existent organisation.
- The terms of reference of the IRSA Committees (Organisation and Policy, Racing Rules, and Technical) and of the Executive Committee portfolio holders (International Regatta Officer, Publicity Officer, Regional Officers) are dated 2000. They refer to RSD, an organisation which no longer exists.
- Certain of the IRSA Offices no longer operate (International Regatta Officer), and certain current IRSA Offices have no terms of reference (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer).

## Policy and initiative details

The manifesto objectives and the current concerns will be addressed by these policies and initiatives which we will introduce if elected:

### Transparency

Most radio sailors probably know more about the workings, discussions, and decisions of their national secret service than they do about IRSA. We will seek to change that.

Preamble: It is true that some things need to be discussed and decided behind closed doors. They tend to be things where people could get hurt or property damaged. Anything else is probably better discussed and decided openly. Errors are more likely to be spotted and constituents are more likely to feel that justice is being done and being seen to be done. These are ideological ambitions, however; they are matters of personal conviction with little in the way of hard evidence to either back them up or show them to be wrong. Nevertheless, we declare an over-riding commitment to transparency of process and of decision, and to welcoming considered and thoughtful input from any source.

- T-1. We will set up an IRSA blog site. Every quarter or thereabouts, each executive committee portfolio owner (Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Technical, Racing, Events, Infocomms, Classes) will blog about their portfolio matters: what was discussed, what was decided, how they were decided, and likely future matters on the committee's planning horizon.

### Class administration

While IRSA is responsible for the M, 10R, and A, there is no activity which specifically promotes these classes. We will seek to establish a committee for each class which will operate as an international class association. In addition, we will actively seek applications for recognition from other classes which are raced internationally.

- C-1. We will sustain the autonomy of IOMICA while providing IRSA support, adhering to the spirit and intent of the original ISAF-RSD / IOMICA Agreement of 2003 – IOMICA shall authorise International events for the IOM, and shall amend and interpret class rules in accordance with RSD (IRSA) regulations.
- C-2. We will seek to establish IRSA class committees, one for each of the M, 10R, and A International classes.
- Each committee will operate as an international class association, tasked with managing and promoting its class.
  - Each class committee will authorise its World Championships (and any other International events) with Events Committee support and manage its class rules with Technical Committee support.

- For the A Class committee, an early task will be to clarify the status of the A class: fully International, or some other status.
- For the M and 10R Class committees, their class rules will be brought up to date and a number of recent technical issues addressed with Technical Committee support.
- For the A Class committee, a long-overdue and substantial rewrite of the class rules in ISAF Standard Class Rules format will be undertaken with Technical Committee support.

C-3. We will encourage the formation of independent International class associations.

C-4. We will seek applications for recognition from other internationally active classes which will find such recognition attractive when they understand how IRSA wishes to grant them autonomy and support along with rights to hold World and other international championships - see above

- To demonstrate RG65 support, the Technical Committee will draft an ISAF Standard Class Rules version of the current RG65 class rules for that class to use if it wished.

## Rules administration

We will seek to introduce procedures to yield the kinds of rules that radio sailors want. These will cover the effective management of the four-year cycle of Appendix E changes, as well as racing systems, event management, and competitor eligibility and ranking.

R-1. The Racing Rules Committee will, in consultation with stakeholders, seek to develop and then implement IRSA regulations for managing input into the ISAF four-year cycle of rule changes to Appendix E. The management process will emphasise transparent consultation with all stakeholders and will provide a schedule of actions in each year of the cycle.

R-2. The Events Committee will, in consultation with stakeholders, seek to develop and then implement new IRSA regulations for managing changes to and improvement of the IRSA recommended racing system, IRSA SSIs, IRSA Addendum Q, guidelines for event management, and competitor eligibility. It is expected that such revised regulations will emphasise transparent consultation with all stakeholders.

R-3. The Events Committee will, in consultation with stakeholders, seek to propose new IRSA regulations for a Worldwide ranking list of radio sailors.

R-4. The Events Committee will, in consultation with stakeholders, seek to propose new IRSA guidelines and possibly regulations for an IRSA recommended race scoring software system.

## IRSA structure

To support our proposals, we will review IRSA Administration and will make recommendations to bring it up to date and make it fit for purpose. It is expected that such recommendations would seek to move from a regional representation system to a class based representation system, and put the right people in the right places for events and for information and communications.

- S-1. To support transparency, we will seek to establish an Infocomms Committee, responsible for the IRSA Web site and for the blog site. This committee will absorb the functions of the existing Publicity Officer. The Infocomms Committee will be tasked with conducting a review of IRSA communications and with delivering recommendations on how IRSA and executive committee processes and decisions can be made more transparent, and how radio sailors can provide effective input to IRSA and the Executive.
- S-2. To provide effective class management, we will seek to establish IRSA class committees, one for each of the M, 10R, and A International classes.
- S-3. To provide support for international events, and support for class events at all levels, we will seek to establish an Events Committee. The Events Committee terms of reference will include responsibility for racing system, SSIs, Addendum Q, event management, competitor eligibility, worldwide rankings, and race scoring software systems.
- S-4. The incoming Executive Committee will be tasked with conducting a review of the office of Secretary/Treasurer and delivering recommendations to address the increasingly difficult circumstances surrounding the management of IRSA finances.
- S-5. The Chairman will be tasked with conducting a comprehensive review of IRSA Administration (Constitution, Regulations, Committee and Officer terms of reference) and with making recommendations to bring these up to date and fit for purpose.