

Dear Friends !

Welcome to the AGM 2009 .

The invitation was send 23-5-09 from IECU . In relation to our constitution that is in time . Here are 14 members represented , and therefore I find the AGM legal . Is somebody against ?

To be kind to the organizers we have to be ready at 17.45 , so I will ask everybody to be fast . I will be very happy if the presentations of the coming major events can be done in max 10 min each .

First of all a big thank you very much to the IECU board . You are all doing it great . I know you are using really much time working for IECU . I believe much more than our members know .

The year went as usual quiet with no big items . At the ISAF-meeting the Europe was not re elected as Olympic Class .

I am very sorry to tell you that nobody (even decided on the last AGM) have reported her or himself to work as VP promotion and Publicity . In the period after Mick stopped Jorma have looked after the web , but that is not the idea . Jorma have more than enough to do with the administration . So I must ask the AGM to choose a person who can take over , or find an other solution .

IECU do still have a little reduction in number of members . I am very sad to see that old “Europe Nations” and nations I do know still organized are sailing the Europe , not have paid there annual fee to IECU , and therefore not are members anymore .

In these years our class need solidarity from all Europe-sailing nations , and not nations just looking at there own navel . Of course there will be years when nations not can fill out their quotas for major events . All nations have ups and downs .

But think about how it will look to IASF that IECU members are going down in numbers and continents .

If the Europe-sailing nations being not IECU-members have anything to add or complain , I will ask you to contact me .

Every year I receive the yearbook “Europe info” from the German Europe class . Thank you for that . It is a very informative work done with great enthusiasm . This year I was very happy to read the letter from Gösta Bergh . He writes that the development of the class in Germany is steady and strong , and the numbers of sailors in competition on all levels are steady . I hope it is an indication for the rest of the Europe-world .

What is success ? Is success to be the World Champion ? Yes perhaps , but it can also be just to complete a race for a new sailor in the class .

That means that success is not related to results , but to expectations . And that means IECU decide itself if the Europe-class shall be a success-class or the opposite .

Of course I with my heart hope we will be an Olympic class again , but with my brain I for sure know it will never happen . Therefore I will recommend everyone to keep focus and expectations on all the hope and happiness there are connected to youth-sport and the Europe-class .

And I believe a lot of you are doing that . Look how many sailors entered this years Worlds and Youth . Look how many applicants we have for major coming events . I am very proud to say : The next free event is in 2012 .

I was very happy to see that we got answers from 80% of our members to support Sweden 2010 . All 80% voted yes . Nobody against .

I still believe the Europe-class have a great future .

Jan Abrahamsen