

IHCA Rules and Measurement Annual Report 2016

2016 has been a busy year with many national and international Hansa Class events being conducted, including the Australian Hansa Class Championships, French Hansa Class Championships, New Zealand Hansa Class Championships, Italian Hansa Class Championships and European Hansa Class Championships; to name a few. At these events all boats were measured/inspected to ensure they comply with the Hansa Class rules. And as usual the rules come under constant scrutiny.

IHCA Rules

The Hansa Class rules are examined and revised periodically to ensure that the class remains competitive and equitable. With input from Hansa delegates some suggestions have been put forward to all NHCA for discussion. The class rules are accessible on the Hansa Class web site (<http://hansaclass.org/technical/>). All NHCA officials are asked to impress on all sailors competing in any championship event to be compliant with the class rules.

During and since the 2015 IHCA AGM much discussion had been forthcoming on several issues pertaining to the then current rules. These centred mainly about seating in the 3.03 and the use of electronic/digital compasses.

Although the 3.03 seating issue has been debated since the last AGM and also at the sailors' forum at the IHCA World Championships at Medemblik no definitive resolution was agreed upon. Therefore the seating rule remains status quo for the time being.

The rule concerning the use of compasses (magnetic or electronic) requires more discussion and/or rewording to allow electronic compasses for timing and steering direction only. Compasses were also talked about during the Medemblik World Championships.

Also, the rigging/setup of the mainsheet in all classes was discussed and was agreed to change the then current rule. The change to this rule came into force on 1st April 2016. At the same time an additional rule was added pertaining to the keel retaining pin which was deemed to be a safety issue.

Measurement

The Request for Additional Equipment (RAE) system is in place to allow acceptable modification to be made to boats to enable persons with special needs to compete equitably. These requests are either forwarded to their National (NHCA) technical delegate or to the Executive Officer of the IHCA for approval or not. All nationally approvals are then forwarded to the Executive Officer of the IHCA for documentation. Many nationally approved RAEs have not been forwarded to the Executive Officer of the IHCA.

The competitiveness of the sailors at major Hansa Class events has improved and the sailors are producing better performances in all Hansa dinghies, consequently some measurements/rules are being pushed to the limit. These infringements can be to the detriment to the class so it is strongly urged that all measurers/inspectors apply the appropriate action to keep all boats in-line with the class rules.

On the subject of Hansa Class measurers, there are three qualified class measurers for the 2.3, 303 and Liberty classes (2 AUS, 1 GBR) and five SKUD measurers (2 AUS, 1 USA, 1 GBR, 1 ESP). Recently the Hansa Class has gained 2 new national measurers (sails only) in Australia. The IHCA is very interested in obtaining more qualified measurers especially in the USA, Europe and Asia.

Any discussion of the class rules is healthy as this promotes strong communication between the executive members and sailors.

Bob Schahinger
Vice President (Rules & Measurement)
IHCA

4b_SKUD 18 Class Rules

Hi all

Regarding SKUD 18 Class rules

The rules were locked in for approximately 2 years leading up to the Rio Paralympics which gave the sailors certainty and security, despite some wanting to continually tinker with the rules they more or less stayed un-changed.

Once we know the outcome of whether the SKUD is to be re-selected as a Paralympic Class we will start the process of reviewing the class rules, we will also review all the additional equipment applications that have been approved since the last class rules update to decide whether any should be included in the update. We will seek SKUD sailors and coaches input into the process.

Kind regards

Tim Dempsey

SKUD 18 Committee President

14/10/16