

# Fireball Executive meeting of 9 February, 2025; 20:00 UTC

## Minutes

### Attendees

- Nick Rees (Commodore)
- Olivier Burgaud (Secretary)
- Guy Newson (Treasurer)
- Dave Hall (Technical Committee Chair)
- Mianne Erne (Minutes Secretary)
- Hiroshi Kato (Rear Commodore Asia)
- Evelyn Chisholm (Rear Commodore North America)
- Heather Macfarlane (Rear Commodore Australia)
- Cormac Bradley (Rear Commodore Western Europe)
- Jakub Napravnik (Rear Commodore Central Europe)

### Purpose

February 2025 meeting of FI Executive.

### Agenda

1. Previous minutes
2. Review of Actions
3. Treasurer's report
4. Boat Developments
5. Promoting strong Fireball fleets
6. 2025 Worlds
7. 2026 Worlds
8. Review of future events
9. Amateur Builder Support
10. Annual Reports
11. AOB

## Minutes

### 1. Previous Minutes

Due to unforeseen circumstances the minutes of the previous meetings aren't online yet. This will be done asap.

## 2. Review of Actions

- **Action 14:** (charity status) Nick is still working on this, there are some new leads
- **Action 26:** CAN to look into import tax situation – would it be feasible/ worthwhile to send a container to a Worlds with boats to stay in North America? (no results yet)
- **Action 46:** (ongoing) Olivier is in touch with the NCAs concerning members' email addresses
- *Action 47: (done) every NCA is up to date with payments*
- *Action 51: Rule changes to the boat specifics have been approved by World Sailing*
- **Action 56/57:** (charter boats for Worlds 2025) ongoing – Christina is quite optimistic about the number of available charter boats
- **Action 58:** Hiroshi Kato to look into different potential event sites. Nick to send event questionnaire
- *Action 59: Nick has sent event questionnaire to KEN*

## 3. Treasurer's report

The 2024 accounts have been done, Guy has sent the documents to Christina, who is auditing it at the moment. Executive will look at it once auditing report is in.

The 2025 budget has some additional, one-off expenditures. It is ready to be sent out to NCAs for approval.

**Action 60:** Guy to write a cover note explaining the budget posts

**Action 61:** Nick to circulate the 2025 budget along with the cover note to NCAs for approval.

## 4. Boat Developments

A boat implementing the new rules is being built and is supposed to be ready for the RYA Dinghy Show

**Action 62:** Dave to follow up Frederik Le Bas's comments about Low Modulus Carbon (240 instead of 200).

Ben Schultz has refitted a YMS boat with some of the changes, to see what is possible and how much it costs.

## 5. Promoting strong Fireball fleets

Compiling numbers of published articles hasn't taken off yet.

Everyone is encouraged to share information about the new boat shape, but also to spread write-ups and pictures of events.

Ski-Voile in Antibes, FRA, got some publicity in Y&Y and on Facebook.

## 6. 2025 Worlds Garda (Italy)

The event website is online, registrations are open. As far as we know, there is no published entry list yet.

AUS has 12 committed boats, i.e. one full container, plus some teams who are interested in charter boats. This was shared on Facebook and seems to have had some impact on other NCAs.

Nick asks if we need to worry about too many entries and a start line that is too wide for a lake. This will be addressed if it actually happens.

Several sailors are not happy with the schedule as published in the NOR: sailing, and prize giving ceremonies, on Saturday means participants will have to drive home on Sunday, with a lot of traffic on the roads.

**Action 63:** Nick to contact CVA to address the problem with the schedule and see if it can be changed, even though it has already been published.

## 7. 2026 Worlds Torquay (UK)

Preparations are underway, there is a high-profile, very motivated team preparing the event. Advertising will be done at the RYA Dinghy Show, by then the NOR is expected to be ready.

## 8. Review of future events

While we have several potential locations for Worlds lined up (KEN, FRA, JAP), there are no ideas for Europeans.

Discussion and considerations:

- Should we think of a different cadence (maybe worlds and Europeans on alternate years). Flying Fifteens only hold worlds every 2 years.
- Could we choose countries where we would like to promote the fleet?
- We should ask "friendly" clubs who are linked to the class and so the championship isn't just a financial business exchange.
- Could we attach Europeans to a Nationals event that would take place anyway? In most cases, a European event is a lot bigger than a National one

**Action 64:** Nick to send a message to European NCAs asking for proposals for European and World Championships

## 9. Amateur Builder Support

Dave has been in contact with a few Americans who could utilise the new rules. Dave will get back to them to let them know the new rules have been approved and are available.

Dave White (USA) has a set of digital plans that he sells to amateur builders for US\$100.

**Action 65:** Evelyn to ask whether we can pay Dave White for his service in digitising the plans, and use those plans in the future. Also ask whether there are any unregistered Fireballs in the US.

## 10. Annual Reports

Annual reports have started coming in, but far from complete.

**Action 66:** Nick to send out a reminder concerning the annual reports.

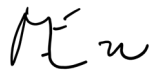
## 11. AOB

All members of the Executive need to sign the form Guy sent (distributed by Nick), concerning the move to a different bank.

Next Executive Meeting: Tue, 29 Apr 2025, 07:00 UCT.

End: 21:35 UCT

Aarau, 4 Feb 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mianne'.

Mianne Erne