

Minutes of Meeting, Lubeck Meeting 8/12 2018

Venue: Marina restaurant, Travemunde

Participants:

DE: Gerhard Stroeh, Peter Berka, Rhett Antes, Dieter Främbs

DK: Torben Jensen, Robert Hansen

NL: Zita Trossel, Lodewijk Cornelissen

UK: Mike Freeman

SE: Bo Mejner

The final document will consist of the minutes as well as some information received by mails during second week of 2019.

The VODA events and rules are from now on called VODA 2.0

In my minutes I have tried to follow the agenda as much as possible but in a brainstorm type meeting like this many issues are brought up. I have put those issues together at the end of the minutes.

Before the actual meeting it was clearly expressed by a few of us that the IFR will need to change focus. IFR is not a racing event. We all agreed to this.

1) Member Count

DE: 222, DK: 138, NL: 190, UK: 200 (according to Mike, a bit uncertain) SE: 178. Mike explained the situation in the VAGB.

- 2) We believe many members are more interested in social meetings even if some of us likes to race. Once again, the new VODA shall be more of a get-together thing. The geographical area is quite large. It will probably be difficult in the future to organize meetings in the UK or Stockholm. A suitable area is Holland, Northern Germany, Denmark and Southern Sweden. The meeting decided that, just taking one example, a UK IFR can take place in Denmark.

IFR is now read as International Friendship Rally. Rally is more of a meeting thing. The word "regatta" put more pressure on the organizer to run the races.

Further, the racing will now only have two classes, we need to define the classes later on. This will make it easier to arrange the racing event.

- 3) The Facebook groups can be seen as a threat for keeping and getting new members but this are not something we can stop, facebook is a public media
- 4) The language for communication should be in English.
- 5) Instead of a regular VODA newsletter, that would be difficult to administrate, it was decided that every country will communicate all kind of news and announcements to the other clubs. This includes PDF of untranslated club-magazines. In this way the other countries can enjoy these events. Lodewijk sent a mail, 16/1 (to all of us), in which he explains how to convert documents from and to various formats. Niels also sent a mail 16/1 on this issue.

- 6) There is, or was, a Vega Database. It is of interest to keep track of all Vegas, Torben will check who is administrating this page. Is the database still alive?
- 7) Is it possible to set up a central forum for technical issues? Peter, can you look further into this?
- 8) In the same way as above, can we set up a site to announce spontaneous meetings?
- 9) We also discussed to let the webmasters meet (Skype?) in order to in some way "synchronize" the home pages.
- 10) It was decided that the IFR organizing country will bear its own costs.
- 11) The following text from the Danish Club describes very well what the new VODA shall stand for. "We realize that this (the Lubeck meeting) is a major change but at the same time we recognize that, at present, the VEGA is outdated as a racing class, too many derivatives are outnumbering the basic configuration. Therefore we believe that the future of VODA lies in the family/ cruising sailing events and especially the every 2nd year IFR event and hence should be the main focus in the future".

Other issues brought up:

Re. name-change, it was decided at the Warnemunde IFR that VODA will be kept as name. However, the meaning of VODA will now be read as Vega Owners Distinguished Association.

Re. the "albinvega.com" site: This site has not been updated since 2008, further the site contains a lot of outdated information. We need to be able to have access to the site, currently Steve Birch is the administrator. Peter is willing to take over that role. Bo will get in touch with Steve to ask him to let Peter take over. The registration is valid up to 08/19 so we need to act.

The meeting encouraged every club to be a member in each of the other clubs, this will get it easier to automatically get information from the other clubs.

An important conclusion is "It is all about communication" as well as accepting that racing is not the main task during all kind of meetings.

Some other activities to think of when organizing meetings was mentioned, match-racing and "open boats".

At the end of the meeting we were all given a leaflet covering the IFR 2020 in Hoorn. We are all looking forward to join you there. Please, keep us informed about the progress.

Let me finish with a nice sentence written by Lodewijk:

"VODA 2.0 deserves attention for the next 10,20.....50 years! Thinking of our grandchildren sailing in those magnificent classic Vega's"

Minutes taken by Bo Mejner