

Czech Republic proposal to Naviga

to be discussed during section M 2015 WC in Poland

In last 15 years the number of WC competitors has increased from 242 to 584 model boats while a similar number of classes. It is incredible success. Competitors are attracted to attend the championship. On the other hand it also brings some negative aspect. While the number of competitors is high championship is too much time-consuming. Moreover for organizers it is more and more complicated to be able to organize such a big event while public interest is still relatively low. Below you can find few tips to help to attract public.

How to attract public?

1) Shorten WC/EC length and audience unattractive passage

- Merge similar classes (also means shorter closing ceremony), currently there is 20 classes in total
- **a) extreme option:** merge all F1 classes (E+V), merge all F3 classes (E+V), merge ECO mini EXP + ST, merge ECO EXP + ST, merge Hydro 1+2, merge Mono 1+2 => F1, F3, mini ECO, mini ECO team, ECO, ECO team, FSR E, mini Mono, Mono, mini Hydro, Hydro (total 11 classes)
- **b) merge individual classes option:** merge less occupied individual classes F1, F3 and make F1E, F1V, F3 (E+V)
- **c) skip combustion engine option:** merge F1 classes to one F1 class with electric power unit, merge F3E + F3V to one class; brings simplification for organizers (there are more strict criteria when combustion engine used)

Note 1: see attached table with WC participant summary

Note 2: for most classes shortening the race time is not a solution (FSR E could be an exception) because shortening the heats' duration would have been in direct contradiction to intention of slowing the models down (see point 4)

2) Make WC/EC worth to see

- Clarify rules for WC/EC organizers – clear deadlines, formal and technical requirements, rules for using grants from Naviga.
- Bring WC/EC to the new locations

3) Simplify rules (clear and easy to understand, skip unnecessary restrictions)

- Due to the accuracy of AMB transponder system (approx. +-0,5m) there is no need to locate transponder 5-10cm from the end of the hull. Lets skip this rule and save referee time for more important matters.

Than there is the speed aspect. The current boats are too fast for competitors to have a full control of it. For example ECO EXPERT boats are able to do the 1 round in approx. 6 seconds (2 seconds/straight – 30m). There is no chance for competitor to react on time (stop or change direction) in case the model in front unexpectedly stops or crashes. This kind of crash usually means complete rebuilding of the model boat. There is also the list of tips to reduce unnecessary costs and prevent crashes.

How to prevent crashes and reduce unnecessary costs?

4) Slowdown model boats

- Decrease the cells weight mini ECO from 110g to 90g and ECO from 280g to 240g

Note: time extension is counterproductive when the WC/EC length should be shorten

5) Focus on fair play

- **a) Increase number of referees** per race i.e. each of them should check area near one buoy (Only one referee is not able to see every crash during group race or even check process of changing boats during the team race and at the same time he is not able to check on correct buoy bypass.)
- **b) Prevent multiple rule interpretation** by referees i.e. right of way case when announced standing (not moving) model started to move again and hit another model passing around or cases when model goes to pits and back (usually during team races)
- **c) Use video** for unclear situation
- **d) WC/EC qualification** – when possible (there are enough competitors) each of 3 heats should be filled with different people mix – for each heat different group of people compete together
- **e) Takeover -“blue flag rule”** – if the slower competitor is passed for the 2nd time already - he should let/allow pass the faster competitor “ahead” with no obstacles (slowing down; leaving the race line; etc). Under current circumstances most of competitors behave like they are “racing for a position” in spite of the fact they are 2+ laps behind. This fact is not mentioned in current rule set and such behavior does influence the results massively.

Other

Naviga.org webpage now has a modern and fresh look and the section with news is highly appreciated. Naviga did the big step forward in this area in recent years.

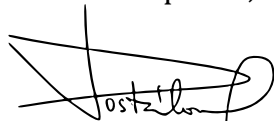
On the other hand English has been established as a communication language but not all the information are available in English on the website.

On the Naviga.org web page there is also few e-mail addresses published but when contacted there is usually no answer.

6) Improve communication channel between Naviga and modelers

- **a) English as a communication language** - Use English properly on website and in book of rules (“The competition rules – general regulations“ differ in case of German and English versions)
- **b) FAQ (frequently asked questions) section** - When it is difficult to answer emails (i.e. because of big administrative load and no one to handle it) create at least some FAQ section on webpage or the list of internal rules – for example clear deadlines and competence for different actions (i.e. rule changes), some “to do” list for WC/EC organizer candidate, ...

In Czech Republic, 15.5.2015



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