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Bulletin Number 49

December 2020

SEASONAL GREETINGS and PRESIDENTS INRERIM REPORT.

As Christmas and the New Year approaches it is normally my pleasure to write a festive note to you but this year this is tinged with sadness. COVID-19 has made 2020 a catastrophic year for everyone. Some of us will have lost love ones or certainly know of someone who has, and our hearts go out to them. Also, because of COVID the World Hovercraft federation has not been without its difficulties too with the postponement of our World Hovercraft Championships in Sweden which were due to take place earlier this year.

However, on a more positive note with the world now facing a much better future in 2021 I am pleased to tell you that we will be holding our postponed World Hovercraft Championships as previously planned in Flottsbro, Sweden but now from the 1st to the 5th of September 2021 ~ more details shortly. (In the unlikely event the world regresses back into the pandemic and this event has to be postponed yet again a decision will be taken in April 2021).

But right now, Christmas is fast approaching so wherever or however you choose to celebrate Christmas raise your glasses and toast your family of hovercraft friends all

On behalf of the World Hovercraft Federation and me may I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and I look forward to meeting you at our next World Championships.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Drake', with a horizontal line underneath.

Tony M. Drake JP. WHF President.

Presidents 2020 interim report.

WHF Bulletin Our constitution requires us to have a general meeting every two years and for convenience we always arrange this at each World Championships. Clearly because of the COVID pandemic this has not been possible this year because our Championships had to be postponed until 2021. In these circumstances I thought I should give you a brief interim report.

When it was agreed in 2018 that our World Championships would be held in Sweden in September 2020 our hosts, the Hoverclub of Sweden, immediately went into action with their preparations. To their great credit, despite being a small Club, almost everything was in place by the end of 2019. Then came the pandemic and all of our lives have been thrown into chaos. However, hovercrafters are always optimistic and the event organizers in conjunction with the WHF held off for as long as possible before having to take the devastating but inevitable decision early in 2020 to postpone the Championships for a year. While this was disappointing for us all you can imagine how very disappointing it was for the Hoverclub of Sweden considering the huge amount of work and time they had invested in the event. Despite this set back we should be very thankful that they have decided to host our Championships in the same place from the 1st to the 5th of September 2021. This, of course assumes, the pandemic will be well under control and travel restrictions are lifted. In the unlikely event some restrictions remain and not everyone can attend the 2021 World Championships the Hoverclub of Sweden have indicated they are prepared to host a World Cup event, but it will not be a formal World

arise you will be kept informed and a final decision will be made in April next year.

Since our last financial report very little has happened and our funds, as below, have largely remained the same.

We have a total of 1,388.19 EURO in our PayPal account.

With the world experiencing such dramatic climatic changes there is now a great desire for everyone to adopt a 'greener' lifestyle. To contribute to this, I would like to remind you that the WHF has led the way for recreational hovercraft with our initial electric hovercraft regulations. These are now contained in our publications Racing Regulations WHF001, and Construction Regulation WHF002. We are indebted to Paul Hibbard, (WHF Vice President Asia) and Owen Elis, (Australia), who lead and inspired an international team who produced these regulations for us.

Finally, I would like to record my thanks to all our WHF Vice Presidents, Secretary, Technical Director and our webmaster for all the help and guidance they have given me during the past two years. In particular I would like to record my special thanks to Magnus Ivanoff, (WHF Vice President Europe), who is leading the Swedish Hoverclub team organizing our World Championships for his hard work and dedication during these difficult times and always keeping me up to date and working with the WHF particularly when some difficult decisions had to be made.

Tony M Drake, WHF President.

Circulation.

As usual this Bulletin will be circulated to as many people as possible but please pass it on to anyone who you think may be interested.

And a Final REMINDER.

Please do discuss any of the above issues, or other matters that concern you, with your colleagues and your Country's representative. This way the WHF can take your views into account and develop for the future.

For your information, our Member Country Delegates are:

anghoverhca@outlook.com

Australia (1) Peter Streader

peter.streader@thomson.net

Austria (1) Andrew Stelzhammer

andrew.stelzhammer@gmx.at

Belgium (2) Jos Vanderhoven

jos.vanderhoven@gmail.com

Canada (2) Bob Rennick

bob.rennick@gmail.com

China (0) Qiaosheng Ma

maqiosheng@126.com

Denmark (1) Uffe Andersen

uffeandersen@hovercraftclub.dk

France (2) Denis Ragot

rpm@wanadoo.fr

Germany (2) Michael Rausch

rausch@luftkissen.de

Great Britain (2) Robert Hiseman

r.hiseman@hotmail.com

Indonesia (1) Soegiarto Soejatono

soejatono@yahoo.com

Ireland (1) David Ryan

hoverireland@yahoo.ie

Italy (2) Michele Scanavino

mikiscanavino@libero.it

Japan (1) Kazutoyo Matsuda

matsuda7@mb.infoweb.ne.jp

Japan (1) Japan Hovercraft Ass.

jhover@hovercraft.or.jp

Lebanon (1) Houssam Chamseddine

calaw@cyberia.net.lb

Mauritius (1) Siegi Scherrer

hovercraft@intnet.mu

Netherlands (2) Christel Martens

martens.hovercraft.nl@wxs.nl

Nigeria (0) Uba Saida Malami

hovercraftclubnigeria@gmail.com

Norway (1) Ornulf Ostbye

hovercraftunion@bluezone.no

Poland (2) Jakub Furmanski

biuro@pudoszkowce.pl

Slovakia (2) Jaroslav Balaz

info@vznasadla.sk

Slovenia (0) Alex Muha

info@hovercraft-club.si

Tunesia (0) Kamel Jelidi

kameljelidi@yahoo.fr

Turkey (0) Tayfun Sert

tayfun@tic.at

South Africa (1) Francois Malan

f.malan@hotmail.com

Sweden (2) Magnus Ivanoff

magnus@hovercraft.se

USA (2) Kent Gano

kentgano@bellsouth.net

(*) number of votes each country has.

Please inform our Secretary, Sacha Rouchier, at whf@hovercraftitalia.com , if your country has made any changes.

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