

## **Supporting Paper – Proposal 2, Techno 293 AGM, 2006.**

We have taken the decision to run a parallel youth programme up to Under 19 for the Techno 293 in Spain. The main reason for this is the high cost and poor quality of the RSX, which makes it totally unsuitable as a mainstream youth board in our opinion. The latest price increase by NP has put it at over 4000 euros in Spain. At a coaches' meeting last week, it was made perfectly clear by the coaches that the vast majority of the sailors would not be able to buy the RSX for financial reasons. They also expressed great concern about the physical suitability of the average sailor here to move on to the RSX at age 16. An agreement has been reached with the Spanish Federation to run a parallel youth programme. The top youths will move over to RSX at 16/17. The vast majority will continue on the Techno 293 with an 8.5 sail - some for one extra year because of being too small to deal with the Techno at 16, others up to 18 for price constraints. It will still remain a feeder to the RSX class, but over a 2 year period. We see that as the only way to stop the young sailors just giving up or changing to another youth class. I do understand that 4000 euros is most probably proportionally a much smaller amount in real terms in Northern Europe, but I do think there is a "market" for both classes. I would propose that we add an under-19 class title with an 8.5 sail at the Worlds in 2007 and at the Europeans here in Cadiz at the New Year's Race. I would ask for a separate class title and not just being part of the Raceboard youths as it is difficult to get Federation funding for the Raceboard championships. I obviously have no problems with having a under 19 (8.5) division here in Spain.

Each country is obviously free to do what it wants, but I see that Holland has already adopted this system, Germany too.

Deborah Powell. Spain.

## **Supporting Paper- Proposal 4, Techno 293 AGM, 2006.**

We have appreciated very much that Europeans will be scheduled in Cadiz during New Year holidays, in order to increase the racing season till now limited to Worlds. So, since Olympic classes shortly will have a World Series with the most important regattas, and FW has a World Ranking and probably in future a kind of events linked such as now it's PWA, Techno should have an European Series, to be raced in the first six or seven month each year, that may combine classic regattas. Obviously nobody, considering school calendars in the different European countries, can race all the supposed events, but I think that a general result considering the three or four best could be a good solution. These events may be:

- a) Cadiz in new Year time (this year Europeans too), school holiday time for all;
- b) Med-Cup in Marseille in February, Carnival time and school break in many countries;
- c) Easter (or Spring) regatta in Marsala (in 2007 Marsala will be the first step in Easter week-end for Italy Cup Techno, RS:X and FW too!), Easter holidays;
- d) Livorno regatta in end April/mi-May, may be Labour Day or Whitsunday week-end;
- e) Wimereux North Sea Cup in June;
- f) an event in UK early or mi-July, summer holidays.

This is a provisional idea only and, if AGM will approve the project, we can improve it within October or early November and eventually add more regattas. The final event should foresee a prizegiving party and should be a forecast of August worlds.

Surely it will necessary a coordination office and small economic resources (maybe each event organiser can pay a fee in order to be included in the package or a special membership card for European Series at the symbolic cost of 10 Euro each competitor yearly and so on), but this project could increase the contest among the countries and give more occasions for training and fun.

Marco Rossi, Italy.