

2016 IMCA Annual General Meeting – Country Reports

a. Italy

Italian class has no changes in numbers from previous year.

Our events are increasingly attended by other europeans members. The calendar is rich and well spread over the season , Garda racing and in particular the Foiling Week are attracting many sailors.

Calendar IMCA Italy 2016

- 30 Aprile/1 Maggio – Arco – Italia Cup
- 28-29 Maggio – Gravedona – Italia Cup
- 7-10 Luglio – Malcesine – Foiling Week- Test 2017 Moth Worlds Waters regatta
- 30-31 Luglio – Lovere – Italia Cup
- 2-4 Settembre – Punta Ala – Campionato Italiano e Eurocup

Moth Worlds are getting closer and from the mothosphere it appears it will be well attended.

Dates are set with program being:

17th -18th early arrival

19th registration measurement

July 20-21 Italian Open Championship + registration/measurment

Moth Worlds 23-29 (26 layday) --or finishing on 28th if a five day racing program is preferred

No limits in terms of partipants

Logistic arrangements are discussed with GAC PINDAR

Sponsorship deals still at early phases.

Please excuse me for not attending the Hayama Moth Worlds, congratulations to Hiroki Goto and all the Japanese Moth Fleet

b. Switzerland

SwissClass is growing slowly but continuously, having 34 paying members today. Lot of boats are changing owners, new boats getting ordered! Some Wazps owners are waiting for their new boats as well. New young sailors joined recently the class and are pushing hard and showing already good level in races.

GC32 or Flying Phantom sailors getting interested by the Moth as training and learning boat. But they are not racing with us, until now.

The class organizes around 3 races a year and getting around 20 boats to each event. Eurocup was helping to get foreign competitors to join and we had a nice class championship in Thun in September 2015 with good thermal conditions and beautiful alpine scenery!

2016-racing will start in Geneva on the same dates than the Worlds, unfortunately, but no other dates were available before summer-holidays! So good alternative for the guys staying in the country.

We will get the chance to run again an Eurocup Act in October in Lugano, Adriano's home-club. Let's hope for good numbers of participants. Communication with Eurocup-Organisation was not easy this year, as we proposed early and initially got no event and then, when all calendars were published, the UK event dropped out, and we were asked if it would still be possible to come to Switzerland! Of course, Moth are always welcome!

Adriano Petrino will be SwissClass President in my absence (12 month personal cruising project) and I will be back for the 2018 season!

I wish you safe and fast sailing.

c. Netherlands

We had a good 2015 with as highlight the Europeans. It was a long time ago when we had around 80 Moths at the startline in the Netherlands. For that we have to go back to world championships held in Holland in the 80's.

We are very appreciative that we were allowed to host the Europeans. It helped to put get more attention for the class in the Netherlands. The conditions were challenging and ended with a glamour day of sailing. We hoped all sailors enjoyed the event. We got good attention on social media via the daily video's and news bulletins.

The class is growing and we have more people buying moths new or second hand. The challenge is to get them as paying members as not all of them are yet going to major championships. The new mothies are former Olympians, Olympian coaches and enthousitic sailors.

We notice that is difficult for aspiring mothies to buy reasonable priced second hand moths.

We are looking forward to have mothies at the Delta Lloyd regatta in May in Medemblik and open Dutch championships in September. We just had the 30th of April a demonstration day with all foiling classes in the Netherlands. Whereby we could give a very nice presentation on the history of the moth class. This thanks to Phil Stevenson who generously shared his presentation he gave at foiling week and vast knowledge on the history of the class.

d. France

Number of members in 2015 : 16

Number of members so far in 2016, 10 should increase to about 20 with the Europeans in June.

In 2015 we had our classic 4 regatta with 5 to 10 moth each time and an eurocup french national with about 20 boats, 50% from overseas and 50% of French.

We made a few change in the organisation of the association with a new president and secretary.

Lot of work a been made in the organisation of the euro 2016, relation with the sailling club, redaction of the NOR and SI, search for sponsorship to support the event.

We have secure a main sponsor for the euro with FORWARD WIP a few weeks ago, withch shouls garanty a good media coverage.

Many pro sailor came to moth sailing during the winter, there is a lot of interest from non professional as well , club and the French sailing federation.

If we can propose a good racing circuit for the coming years we have a good hopes to to grow the fleet and sailing level prety fast.

A few ship yard and R D society are interested or still working on moth development.

Many contact a been made with sailing club and some of the major French sailing events to have more regatta in 2017 and promote the class.

It's still a bit last minute organisation in 2016 but we should be able to secure a good calendar early in the season for 2017.

Intention are to

- More regatta

 - More media coverage buy a good social media coverage by the class (still have to organise this)

- Promote the class by having regatta in some of the big sailing events

- Have a ranking on the wall season

- Finding a few class partner to help in organisation, communication

- Having more girls into the class by promoting a women series

Major event in France will be the euro in 2016, plus 5 regatta and 5 week of training with the National Sailing School.

We will have to find a new treasurer and secretary for 2017.

To sum up, there is a very important move about moth sailing at the moment, and thing could grow for the coming years but we have to find the good people to make this happen.

e. Great Britain

2016 has been a year of change for the UK International Moth Class Association. After the success of the Moth Worlds in 2014, maintaining momentum has been difficult as I am sure all IMCAs find after they have hosted a Worlds. Our membership in 2014 reached its highest ever level with 95 members but fell to the more “normal” level of 72 members in 2015. This year we have been encouraging renewals by supplying a free Tshirt if members renewed by the deadline. This has been highly successful.

The lesson from the 2014 Worlds for us has been a demonstration of the power of media and social media in promoting the class, not only in the UK but also World-wide. A big decision for the UK class was to not to participate in the RYA Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace in 2016. After a doubling in stand fees by the RYA, it was felt that the money would be better spent promoting the class using the very successful PR & video avenues used at the 2014 Worlds.

The UK IMCA is represented by a small but very high quality contingent of sailors and we wish them the best of luck. After the Worlds, there are a large number of UK sailors making their way to Maubisson for the French Europeans and everyone is very much looking forward to it. Another popular event will be the UK Nationals at the Weymouth Academy, site of the 2012 Olympic Sailing at the end of August. Last time we were at Weymouth in 2012, we had 69 entries and are hoping for a similar number. Of course, we love to see European visitors (and anyone else who would like to come!) and invites will go out on Social Media nearer the time.

f. Australia

The Moth fleet in Australia continues to be a strong class. Even after post Sorrento worlds, some 55 boats sailed the McDougall McConaghy 2016 International Moth Australian Championship from 2nd to 8th January, 2016, hosted by South of Perth Yacht Club. A very well run event in a location ideal for sailing Moths, Josh McKnight was dominant with evergreen Rob Gough in 2nd and UK ex pat Ed Chapman in 3rd.

In each state, the class is stable with healthy fleets sailing in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia.

The **2017 Nationals** will be held at Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay 4th – 9th January. Breeze could be a northerly (10 to 30 knots, flat water), S/SW/SE which a colder breeze with some waves, or westerly (comes over mountain and fickle). Good time of year to be in Hobart – lots going on.

2018 Nationals –rotation implies this is back in NSW. Location is likely to be the Moth mecca Wangi Wangi in January 2018.

There are 3 new life members to IMCAA, John Illett - for services to the class and being the initiator of foiling, Phil Stevenson –for services to the class as Secretary / Treasurer

for 7 plus years, and Andrew McDougall –for bringing moth sailing to its current position via design of production boats, making the class accessible to many.

Warren Sare – President
Emma Spiers – Secretary
John Genders – Treasurer

g. Finland

2015 SEASON

2015 Season was the most active Moth year in Finland, with 9 more or less active boats, all based in the Helsinki region. Finnish Moth fleet consists of home-built, Mach2 and Bladerider moths.

No official regattas organized, but focus has been on training together, including some unofficial races. Only one sailor participated in regattas abroad (Europeans).

2016 PLANS

Growing interest around the class continues. Several new sailors have or are planning to join the class. We estimate our fleet to grow to 15 boats.

In February, we used the opportunity to display three Moths in the Helsinki Boat Fair as part of a foiling section, feedback was very positive.

For this Season, we have planned two regattas (June and September) and a weekly evening series in Helsinki from May until September.

Austria

Germany

Japan

Singapore

Spain

Sweden

United States