



NFIA - Chairman - Stefan Rosehr - Teichstr. 3a-5a - 23558 Lübeck - Germany

Chairman's Report of the Year 2011/2012

The NFIA (fiscal) year started 2011 in Travemünde at the Goldpokal during the Travemünder-Week with amazing 61 Folkboats participating. Five nations were represented; DEN, SWE, GBR, USA, GER – only boats from the Netherlands and Finland were missing. The decision to hold next Goldpokal in 2012 in Sandhamn/Sweden near Stockholm caused a mix of emotions. Of course, it is a long distance from Denmark or Germany to Stockholm. In Travemünde we welcomed 6 crews from North Sweden – and isn't the way from Sweden to the South the same distance as vice versa?

Now the first start of the Goldpokal 2012 will be shortly and we have 35 entries from 5 nations – that is about the same number which we had 2 years ago in Denmark. From that point of view, a very good participation. Additionally I am very happy that even some crews (currently 3) from Finland are coming over.

At last year's AGM the board of the NFIA changed in some positions. As new Vice-Chairman we confirmed Per Damm (Denmark) who took officially over the job from Ole Gorm Larson who retired at the beginning of 2011. So Per was doing this job already for some month temporarily before. With Per we found a very good follower of Ole, having a wide knowledge of the Folkboat and the Danish Association.

As new Treasurer we voted all for Harald Koglin who took over the business from Bernard Turner. Harald is a member of the Board of the German Association, taking care of the website and offers his dedication to NFIA as well. At the last meeting we had with Bernard Turner, he handed over the amazing filling cabinet of the annals of NFIA from 1996 on. Harald already worked through this mess of documents to figure out which ones are important and which ones are not.

Everybody knows that not many new boats have been sold in the last years. And being one of the major incomes of NFIA - the building fee. So last year the AGM decided – in accordance with our Articles - to charge an annual fee to the National Folkboat Associations. So we sent out invoices to our members at the beginning of this year. We are very happy that every nation paid within time.

Always when reading something about "cost savings" in the newspapers from Politics, you will read nothing about real saving, but of cost increasing, higher taxes. Different situation in NFIA - we discussed and realized real cost savings. So we changed our meeting place to Lübeck, which is easily reachable by the participants and we can hold our meetings there without additional costs for meeting room etc. So it seems realistic to drop down travel costs per year from 3.200€ to about 2.000€. However, we will not debar anyone to buy new sails and even Folkboats to increase our income.

Next year the Goldpokal will take place from 29.07 – 03.August held by Niendorfer Yacht Club – Lübeck Bay. In 2014 it will be in Denmark. For 2015 we have an application from the Spandauer Yacht Club (Winning Club of GP 2011, Berlin) to be held in Warnemünde. In 2017 we will celebrate our 75th anniversary of the Nordic Folkboat. Therefore, we already received an official application by the Danish Folkboat Association who will organise a "big anniversary party" during the Goldpokal.

We had quite a lot of technical issues this year, which is typical every 4 years, because in accordance with our articles we can perform major rule changes only then. Some topics are the allowance of GPS, bigger windows in sails, extended battens in jib and changes to our "hiking" rule 13.20. For all details see the technical report from Hans Torlén.

I like to thank all Board members, Technical Committee, Measurers, National Associations and all Folkboat sailors for supporting our Class and activities.

I wish you all the best, good luck and health in 2012.

Yours sincerely

Stefan Rosehr
Chairman NFIA
June, 2012