



## Chairman's Report of the Year 2013/2014

Thank God - winter is over and the sailing season is running. All boats are in the water and many races already have been completed; summer holidays are close.

A real great event already took place this year. After a long break the SESSAN Cup was hosted again in Berlin by Seglervereinigung 1903 Berlin e.V. It was the best participation of different nations a Folkboat Regatta ever had. Teams from 7 nations - Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Great Britain, Hungary, Estonia and Germany were represented. And again the Danish sailors proved their skills to win on light-wind lakes as well. So first price went to "Team Kolding". The participation of 26 teams was really amazing for our Class. So NFA would like to thank the hosting club SV03 and all its members for making this event possible.

And the Gold-Cup in 2013 was a great success as well, 55 participants from four nations were at the starting line. Interesting races, best - sometimes interesting - sailing conditions and many social events made all sailors happy. The Cup was won again by SörenKaestel and his crew for Hellerup Sailing Club.

This year the Gold-Cup will be back in Kerteminde – this is promising very exciting races, professional organisation and many social events, which makes the Gold-Cup so unique. As already decided last year, the Gold-Cup in 2015 will be in Warnemünde, Germany, hosted by the Spandauer Yacht Club and 2017 – when we celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Folkboat – it will be back in Kerteminde again.

For 2016 it now has been decided to have the Gold-Cup in Helsinki – first time in Finland ever. This is very challenging and will need a lot of organisation. The National Associations have already started negotiations with regard to transport, accommodations and trying to get sponsors for this event. We will talk to ferry company "Finnlines" to find out if it will be possible to have the boat taken to Helsinki only on the trailer. This would make the transportation costs much cheaper. As we have 2 years time for planning, I'm sure we will get many interesting solutions provided and with the help by our National Associations.

So next vacant Gold-Cup will be the one in 2018. We will ask Aarhus in Denmark, who already applied for the 2016 event. Maybe they are willing to shift it for 2 years. But currently we do not have any application.

Kerteminde Sailing Club is the current owner of the Gold-Cup and published the rules several years ago. Due to changes of ISAF regulations and changes of "Racing Rules of Sailing" (RRS), it was time to refresh the Gold-Cup rules as well. This has been done by Kerteminde during wintertime and will be published soon. When released we will publish a link on NFA website.

# NORDIC FOLKBOAT INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION



Our Treasurer Harald will report our financial Situation in details. Briefly I can say we saved even more money and so we are in a comfortable situation.

Our Vice Chairman – Per Damm (Denmark) – will finish his term this year and likes to retire. As his replacement Denmark proposed Sören Kaestel – well known as multiple Gold-Cup winner. We really appreciate his engagement for the Folkboat Class and would love to welcome him as new NFIA Board Member.

I like to heartily thank Per Damm for his work, engagement to NFIA and our Class.

I am glad that Hans Torlén and Harald Koglin are prepared to stand in for another term of 3 years in their functions. You have the vote.

Now the NFIA has 9 member nations – one more than last year. A small fleet has been established in Hungary and with their application having received, we welcome the Hungarian friends as our 9. Member. So currently our member nations are: Great Britain, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the US. Canada is still in the process of founding a national association.

As already written in last year's report, we are discussing the technical development of the Nordic Folkboat. Where will it go, which changes would be nice, which are necessary? We put these questions to all our members and are expecting your ideas and feedback. Next chance to establish major rules changes is in 2016 becoming effective the year after. So we have time for discussions and preparations.

Finally the same procedure as last year: I like to thank all Board members, the Technical Committee, Measurers, National Associations and all Folkboat sailors for supporting our Class and activities.

I wish you happy Sailing, many exciting events, good health and always - as we say in Germany: "eine Handbreit Wasser unter dem Kiel" (1)!

Yours sincerely

Stefan Rosehr  
Chairman NFIA  
June 2014

(1) At least the width of a hand of water below the keel.