



**Minutes of the IDA Annual General Meeting 2025**  
**International Committee of the International Dart Association**

**Venue:** Zandvoort (NED)

**Date:** 23.07.2025, 9.30 - 11.30am

**Representatives:**

Nicolette	van Gorp	IDA Chairwoman
Ruud	van Gisbergen	IDA Treasurer
Adrian	Bleisch	IDA Committee
Joe	Franks	IDA Committee and GBR
Michiel	Fehr	IDA Secretary and SUI
Martino Giorgio	Salvo Vincenti	ITA
Olivier Thierry	Billard Wibaux	FRA
Willem Gardi	van Putten Mindermann	NED
Klaus	von Weitershausen	GER
Barry Deborah	Peters Waters	GBR
Simon David	Lake (online) Lloyd	THA
Tom	Phipps	Windsport
Ian	Fraser	Breigher Mouldings

## 1. Minutes AGM 2024, Tarqunia

The minutes can be found on [www.dart18class.com/official-documents/](http://www.dart18class.com/official-documents/) -> AGM's

## 2. Short Reports from the nations

All countries can submit an additional written report (maximum 1 page) to be attached to these minutes.

### United Kindom

- Nr. of boats are dropping at national event
- + Local club activities are growing
- + Focus on clubs that have a strong Dart fleet.

### Thailand

- + 27 Dart at the club, many of them racing regularly
- + Good turnout at Nationals
- + Hope to organise the Worlds 2028

### France

- + Steady number of active Darts
- + Nationals with 35 boats, thanks to many from other countries
- + Successfully organised the first Dart-festival
- + Got donated a boat for the youth

(see detailed report attached to these minutes)

### The Netherlands

- The number of boats that travel is getting smaller (same as in UK)
- Many sailors don't want to sail for more than 2 days
- + Local fleets are strong and sailing actively at the clubs
- + One-Up-fleet is going strong

### Germany

- + Number of members is steady
- but many of them are not actively sailing anymore
- + There is a strong group of young sailors that is willing to get more engaged with the class
- It gets more and more difficult to find clubs to organise regattas. One reason is the lack of volunteers.
- + Combined events with the TopCat-class work well

### Italy

- + Joined nationals with GER and SUI on Lake Garda in September 2025

- + Plan to do a singelhanded Championship 2026
- Fleet in Rome is going a bit slow at the moment, as Alessandro Baldi had to take a break from sailing

## Switzerland

- + There is a very small but strong core-group of sailors
- We don't manage to attract new sailors to the class
- + Joined regattas with GER and ITA work well
- + Some longtime venues can be kept by offering them to come and volunteer at other events of these clubs

### 3. Builders Report Windsport

Windsport is going well. Dart is a small part of it, Tom and his team rely on other incomes. Nevertheless, as it was for Brian, for Tom the Dart Class remains very important and together with Brian and Ian Fraser he is putting a lot of effort into the Class.

On the website [windsport.co.uk](http://windsport.co.uk) he is setting up a members site called "The Cat Clinik". This will give access to tips and tricks about the Dart.

From the 7.-11. May they have organised the Dart Fest — Dart Catamarans. Fun, Racing, Coaching, Exploring, Social were the focus of this event in Cornwall. It was a success and mobilised sailors, that would not necessarily come to a regatta.

The supply chain for DART18 parts is solid. RWO, who provides many of the blocks, has stopped their business. Windsport has quite a lot of stock and is examining different solutions. For the production of the mast a new supplier could be found. A challenge remains with the productions of the many small special parts. Ian and Tom are still testing a lot of options with 3D-printing to keep the costs for these parts down to an affordable level. New environmental restrictions impact the production of the hulls. The raisin being used for the lamination will change. The new raisin is heavier. Tom is working with the manufacturer to find a solution to keep the weight down.

Tom concludes that the new boats are at a very high standard and some of the best ever produced. Feedback on boats, parts or support by windsport are always very welcome.

Italy, Germany and France mention that transport to Europe is very unreliable. Parts can pass customs in a day or get stuck for weeks. Also the tax can vary a lot. This has partly to do with what product code is put on the parts. Thierry imports a lot of parts from other companies and might have a suggestion, how to make this easier.

**-> Tom and Thierry will look at possible solution**



#### 4. Reports from IDA

All the necessary reports to WorldSailing have been handed in on time and membership fees have been paid. Nicolette is in close contact with the rules committee and Windsport.

The website has been kept up to date with the international regatta calendar and the most important news about international events. All official communication and documents can be found on the website ([www.dart18class.com](http://www.dart18class.com))

##### **IDA committee members:**

Michiel Fehr will retire from this position as secretary after this meeting.

Nicolette announces at the meeting that she will step back as president of the IDA by August 2026.

Joe Franks and Adrian Bleisch have joined the committee.

The aim is to have a board of 3-4 members.

Simon Lakes (THA) and Thierry (FRA; after he has handed over his business) are interested in joining Joe and Adrian.

##### **Finances:**

The current account held in combination with the dutch class association stands at 1'100Euros.

IDA-Fees 2024 and 2025 will be invoiced after this meeting

***-> please fill out the [National Class Reports – International DART 18 Association](#) and let us know the number of active boat in your country***

#### 5. Class Rules

##### **Rule change “new prize categories” (FRA)**

In order to promote and develop women and young practice, it would be clever to update our statement for prizing rules

Update existing article 15:

##### **15. TROPHIES AND PRIZES**

a. The World Championship and Continental Perpetual Trophies shall be awarded at each event to the highest five ranking qualified finishers from the final standing.

b. Trophies or prizes should be awarded to at least the top 10 finishers (for both helmsman and crew) of each regatta unless otherwise agreed with the I.D.A. International Committee.

With a new c section:

*C. The first 3 young teams, the first 3 full female teams and the first 3 single-handed will also be named and rewarded (this remains valid even if they are less than 3).*

In the discussion the point is raised, that some women don't want to be treated differently and will not accept a special prize. On the other hand the prizes could encourage female teams and youth teams to take part and it will make them visible.

We already have a trophy for the first lady's helm. This should be added under the new section C.

***-> The proposal is accepted and will be taken up in the changes to the championship rules (see below)***

#### **Rule change “Trapeze adjusting system” (GBR)**

Joe suggests that a different way to mount the trapeze adjustment system will be taken up in the class rules. This would make sure the trapeze hock is being pulled up when hocked in and make it easier to get out on the wire.

***-> Joe and Tom will draft out a proposal to be handed in to the rules committee. The meeting supports this change.***

#### **Proposal Form Amendments Class Rules**

In the context of the new production methods for some of the parts windsport is keen on possibilities to test the new parts properly before introducing them. David Lloyd is willing to help testing among the fleet in Thailand, as they are sailing regularly.

#### **Rule change “Stainless steel fittings”**

In the last meeting we communicated that this proposal was declined by the rules committee.

The reasons were:

- It proposes a system where there is a mixture of both methods of splicing wire;
- The current method is a system used worldwide for all splicing of wire strops in every industry. It is tried and tested;
- Anyone with a simple hand tool (f.e. <https://www.proboat.co.uk/item/1/64/160/Ormiston-Ferrule-Hand-Swaging-Tool-Small>) can make their own rigging
- The eye and swage allows a lot of movement so that the wires, the swages and the eye all line up. This doesn't happen in certain circumstances with swaged terminals, and they stress the wire to breaking point where the wire exits the swage;

- Roll swaging is very expensive compared to current methods and can only be done by specialists.

For the fleet in Thailand this causes difficulties, as the standard wires have to be replaced every year due to corrosion.

**-> THA considers handing in this proposal again to be reconsidered by the rules committee.**

## 6. Championship rules

The board suggests updating our [Dart18 Championship Rules](#) and is asking for two people to take on the job of drafting out a proposal in line with the terms and conditions from WorldSailing.

**-> David Lloyd and Simon Lake offer to take on this job together with Nicolette.**

## 7. WorldSailing

WorldSailing checks regularly if all the classes fulfill the conditions for an official status as international WorldSailing Class. We have received a letter that the status of the Dart class is being questioned. The points mentioned are the activities on different continents, the lack of an international measurer and the need to renew the contract between the IDA and WorldSailing.

Nicolette has immediately been in contact with WorldSailing to discuss the issue. Thailand and South Africa have in the meantime provided detailed information about their activities to prove that we are active on different continents.

The most challenging issue is likely to be to find an official international measurer for the class. We can either try to find an international measurer that would be willing to take on the our class or find someone from the class that would be willing to get the necessary certificates.

Thierry in in touch with an international measurer for the Worlds 2026 in Carnac and suggests to ask her, if she would be prepared to act as official measurer for the DART18

**-> Nicolette and Michiel will keep in touch with WorldSailing and make shure to hand in all the necessary documentation. Nicolette will travel to to annual WorldSailing meeting in Ireland.**

**-> Thierry will contact the international measurer for Carnac to and ask if she is prepared to be the official class measurer**

## 8. Information about the Worlds 2026 in Carnac

Smiles, families and 100 Boats. That's the declared aim for the Worlds 2026. Thierry and Olivier inform about the extensive work that has already gone into the

preparation for this event. To start with they have organized an online meeting for sailors from all age groups and competitive levels to find out what they expect from an international Championship. From that they put together their expectations to discuss with the club in Carnac. As the board in Carnac has changed in the mean time and the first budget provided by the club was way too high, there will be further negotiations necessary. Thierry and Olivier are to find a good solution for the class.

As a special incentive for youth teams they will refund the entry fee for teams with both sailors under the age of 25 when they turn up at the event and prove their age.

Discussion about ways to encourage sailors to register early have been discussed. Previous organizers suggest having an early entry fee or other benefits for early entries as encouragement, to make it visible on the website who has entered already. Further it is important to open the entry in October / November. If not all details are clear by that point a pre-registration could be set up.

## 9. Future Event

Germany has been in touch with various clubs about hosting the Worlds 2027. Possible solutions are Scharbeutz or an event during the "Travemünder Woche". But both options are only available for 2028. In Travemünde they have to put forward their bid as soon as possible in order to reserve a space.

Thailand has put forward a bid to host a World Championship in February 2028.

This leaves the following question open:

- What do we do in 2027?
- Can we have two events in 2028? (e.g. Worlds Thailand, Europeans Germany)

**-> Nicolette and Thierry talk to the Club in Knokke, if Belgium could host the Worlds 2027**

**-> Martino and Giorgio talk to Punta Ala about possible Dates for a Worlds in 2027 (Answer: 5-12.06.2027 or 11.-18.09.2027)**

**-> the board will put together a suggestion by the end of September on how to coordinate these events.**

## 10. Elections

Joe Franks and Adrian Bleisch are confirmed as new members of the IDA-Board.

**-> They will get in touch with other potential members to put together a committee for 2026ff**

**Thanks Joe and Adrian!!!**



## 11. Any other business

### Finances at international Events

A discussion about the importance of low budget events at one end and the problem of finding clubs with enough volunteers to host an event at the other follows. Apart from England all nations face the same challenge: lack of volunteers at the clubs, difficulties to provide camping on site, raising cost for infrastructure and accommodation, very few clubs willing to host an event. The Worlds 2025 in Zandvoort will most likely not break even and end up with a loss.

-> future organizers are asked to try as much as possible to keep the entry fees down (first incentive) and provide options for cheap accommodation (e.g. Camping on site).

-> class associations are asked to help explain to the sailors that organizing an international event is expensive and is likely to get more expensive in the future.

Willem and Michiel suggest to put a post in the WhatsApp group in the name of the IDA to motivate sailors that had the unique opportunity to camp directly on the beach of Zandvoort to pay a voluntary contribution of e.g. 50Euros on top of the 50Euros charged by the organization. As the discussion was controversial due to the different issues during the event (e.g. safety boats) they decided to write it in their names.

### Thank you

Nicolette thanks Michiel for the work he has done for the class. (at the prize giving he was handed over a half model of the Dart)

Emmenbrücke September 2025

Sig. Michiel Fehr, IDA Secretary



## Reports by the Nations

### France

I would say that Afidart is still doing quite well. this year we keep our number of members 44. The end of 2024 allowed us to have new racing crews joining the Dart program. The year 2025 started with a strong Dart presence at a weekend race in the Arcachon Bay, followed by the Classic Eurocat in Carnac with 15 boats and the french national in Oléron with 35 boats and a good foreign participation. We can be disappointed, however, by the low participation in this World Championship (6 boats).

That was for the sporting aspect, but Dart is not just about that.

This year, we innovated again and offered a new event on June 21st, the Dart Festival. At five locations in France, we welcomed and hosted those interested by the boat, about ten people per location. The seeds have been sown, and we'll see what the harvest will bring. This type of event is much simpler to organize than meetings/courses lasting several days, and we were quite surprised by the success of this formula.

In terms of action toward youth people, this winter a generous man donated a wonderful boat that is doing well and strengthens the fleet available to youth crews.

Finally, we are continuing to work with the YCC to propose a 2026 World Championship and a Jubilee on the same level as we managed in 2013 in Carnac. However I already can announce that registration fee will stay at the level we had for the last events, which is more than I would have liked.