

Executive Secretary's Report to 2019 World Council Meeting

Thanks to the UK Tasar Association

I would firstly like to thank the UK Tasar Association for organising these 2019 Tasar World Championships. I would like to congratulate Rod Porteous and his team for their organisation of the event, and indeed for the resurgence of the class seen over the past two years. The class now has a greater level of passionate sailors who I hope will continue within the class to help it grow further in this region.

The event has an impressive turnout (as of the time of writing) of 67 boats with a great international feel to the fleet. This turnout of 67 boats is an improvement on the turnout at the last Tasar Worlds to be held in the UK in 2011.

Again, thank you to the UK Tasar Association for their organisation of the event, and to all of the volunteers who are assisting with this. A mention should be made to the sponsors of the event to thank them for their support.

The World Tasar Class Association

Over the period between the last worlds in Japan and now, I can report the following:

Boat Sales

There have been 12 new hulls built, with 8 registered in Australia and 4 in Europe. This is an increase on the figure reported in 2017 of 7, but still lower than the value reported in 2014 (where there had been 26 new boats built). It should be noted however that for those boats reported on in 2014 there had been a significant discount offered.

Sails Sold

Over the period from the previous Worlds, I can report that there have been 294 new sails sold. In 2017 it was reported that 442 new sails sold over the two year period (an increase from the 397 sold in the 2 year period reported on at the previous meeting). Of these, 48% were for Australia, 25% for Japan, 8% for the UK and 11% for North America.

A worrying trend is that there has been a 33% decrease in the number of sails sold when comparing between the two year period between 2015 – 2017 and the 2017 – 2019.

For those that would like to see this in tabular form:

Region	2017 Amount as Percentage	2019 Amount as percentage	%age Difference
AUS	63	48	-24
JAPAN	25	19	-25
UK	11	25	127
NA	1	8	700

Total number of Sails Sold	442	294	-33
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----

Member Countries Representation at Worlds

In 2017 I raised concerns over the number of countries represented at Worlds. At this Worlds there are 7 different countries represented (GBR, NED, IRL, AUS, USA, GER, JPN). This is an increase on the 5 Countries represented at the previous Worlds. These numbers, alongside the membership numbers reported around the world, mean that the class does still meet the requirements to be a World Sailing Recognised class, although this continues to be a concern due to the emphasis World Sailing places upon attendance at Worlds by a range of represented countries..

Finances

The Class remains in a strong financial position, due to the “in and out” nature of the steady, although reduced, income from sail royalties. Whilst the class continues to receive Sail Royalties there will be no requirements for the Regions to contribute funds to the running of the WTC. These funds are used to pay for the class World Sailing fee. This annual fee is one to ensure that the Class remains as a World Sailing Recognised Class. The funds from the Royalties are also used to pay for the website hosting of the class website (www.tasar.org) which is available to use for all regions of the Tasar class. The management of usernames and passwords is managed by the Australian Tasar Council.

In 2019 some of these royalty fees were used to pay for a new set of sail royalty stickers. These were at a cost of \$1500 including postage to Hong Kong. The need for this arose as the 1000 stickers purchased in 2012 had all been used, and a new order for 1000 stickers had been placed.

The funds are also used to purchase World Sailing Plaques. This is a process that involves a supplier requesting a plaque from the WTC, which is then purchased from World Sailing. This plaque fee is then reimbursed by the supplier when they receive the plaque. This is a process that does not cost the WTC, but a small amount of funds are needed to carry this out.

There are now funds available to transfer to each region. This will be the proportional distribution of the Sail royalties based upon the number of sails that went to each region, subtracting the World Sailing fee and website hosting fee for 2020 and 2021, which is being kept in reserve as future sail royalties cannot be predicted. This means that AUS\$3300 will be distributed between the regions in total, with a remainder of AUS\$2000 remaining in the WTC account. This is being held for the areas mentioned above, plus a small amount in case trial parts or specification changes need to be shipped around the world for testing.

Class Rule Changes to Date

There have been quite a few rule changes that have taken place since the last Worlds. These were carried out as an action based upon the specification changes to the hull of the Tasar, and also to “clean up” some of the interpretations that had been collated over the years.

Thank you to each region for participating in this process online, in order for the class to move forward.

Class Rules Format Moving Forwards

A considerable amount of time has been spent in producing a set of draft class rules that are in the most current World Sailing format. At some point the format for class rules for World Sailing recognised classes changed, but the Tasar rules did not. This is not uncommon around other classes. As communicated with the regions this year, we have produced a draft set of rules that have not changed the intent of any of the class rules, but have put them in a format consistent with World Sailing requirements. It is now our intention to share these rules in draft format through a system of with World Sailing, some rules experts and then with each region. It is the intention to move for these class rules to be in place as soon as possible, having moved through a thorough process.

The next step would be to look at any of our class rules that need changing. This would be a process that would involve a level of consultation with each region.

Tasar Measurer

I would like to thank Chris Payne for his work over the past two years. Being in the same state has reduced the tyranny of distance meaning that we have been able to meet at a fairly regular basis to discuss issues and strategies around Tasar measurement. I would highly recommend that if there is an issue that can be seen on the horizon to make contact with Chris Payne. This is also the same if any region can see an alternative or possible improvement to the class in terms of measurement.

The future

We have a great class in the Tasar. In my opinion, the boat is a joy to sail, and has some of the most enthusiastic sailors who are passionate about their class. We are attracting sailors of Olympic standard racing and socialising with Weekend warriors on a level setting in some of the most amazing locations in the world. Each region faces its own challenges and needs to evaluate what is the best approach to take in its own local context in order to, in some regions, survive, and in some areas continue growth seen in recent years. I personally believe that the class should always continue to look to evolve. This should be in the venues that we go to, the way that we run events, as well as the boat itself. Any changes should be aimed at building the dynamic within the class and should not in any way erode it. This will be in the challenge in the next few years as each region evaluates the impact on evolution at a local level and at a World level.

Details for WTC Communication

Currently, just about all WTC communications are via email and it is important that I have up to date details of office bearers of all Region and Districts. Could I urge you to notify me as soon as any changes occur. This will also allow me to update the information on the WTCA web site.

I would like to finish by wishing everyone an enjoyable event at Hayling Island. The Tasar community is a great one to spend an event with, and alongside the hospitality of the the UK fleet I am sure that you will all appreciate the joy of the experience, both on and off the water, of a Tasar Worlds.

Peter Ellis

Executive Secretary, World Tasar Class Association

