



Monaco, 18th January 2018

To the National Authorities

Dear Ladies, Dear Sirs,

For many years the UIM officials have not prevented boats from racing, which were having safety cockpits not built exactly by the rules. We trusted their Measurement Certificates; but having checked some boats in some races gives us reason to change our procedures henceforth. Firstly, using boats which are not built exactly by the existing rules is not fair to other drivers who are using boats complying with the rules. Secondly, and more important, is the fact that these boats are most likely not safe enough. In addition, we have new safety and technical rules for 2018.

To accept boats for races in this season 2018 and in following seasons, the UIM has decided to run a special check procedure for all boats using safety cockpits/reinforced cockpits. This does not include taking measurements by the CIRCUIT rule 509 only; this is a much wider procedure to ensure drivers safety at the races:

- Checking cockpit measurements according to the UIM Circuit Rule Book 2018 (509)
- Seat and seat fixing to the boats
- Seatbelts and seatbelt correct fixing to the boats
- Air supply (509.20)
- Crash boxes for classes where defined
- Hinges and opening of the canopy
- Visibility in cockpits
- Air bags for classes where defined

We may add some checks by experience, too.

To get permission to race in the 2018 season and further, every racing boat for classes F-500, F-4, F-2 and the endurance catamarans have to be checked and accepted for racing by UIM officials, designated by the UIM office, before racing in 2018. The UIM is currently preparing a time schedule, checklist and officials to perform this task. The first "UIM boat check" will be held in Düsseldorf on the weekend 3rd/4th February. In the morning of Saturday 3rd Feb., the UIM officials present on-site will offer interested NA representatives a boat measurement training. Please let the UIM office know if your NA wishes to take advantage of this possibility.

As a result of these boat checks, the UIM official may give one of three possible decisions for each particular boat and driver combination:

- Boat is correct by the rules for racing in 2018.
- Boat needs modifications. List of needed modifications and dates for recheck are given to the boat driver.
- Boat is not conforming to the UIM rules and racing with this boat in these conditions is not allowed. A list of non-conforming areas is given to the driver.

We will shortly send you the schedule and list of the places where checking will be organized. Teams and drivers can choose whichever place and date from the list, that is most convenient to them. They are kindly requested to inform the UIM Office of their choice (uim@uimpowerboating.com), indicating in the e-mail "Subject" line the term "UIM SAFETY CHECK".

We kindly ask you to inform your Teams and drivers accordingly and thank you for your co-operation in running this important safety procedure.