



Harro Kniffka - Died on 15th March 2009

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by IDA on Thu Mar 19, 2009 10:29 am

With deep grief, shock and great regret we learned that one of the great supporters of the Dragon Class, Harro Kniffka passed away on March 15, 2009 after a short and severe illness only a few days after his 53rd birthday..

The ship-owner Harro Kniffka was not only active in shipping but was also especially committed to social and Christian causes. Both financially and personally as an advisory committee member/counsellor he supported important shipping institutions, Mother and Child houses in Bremen and in Weinfelden/Switzerland as well as several foundations.

In 2005, he initiated the "Hanseatic Lloyd Dragon Grand Prix", a sailing regatta that has been held annually since 2006 for the benefit of the "World CHILDHOOD Foundation", which was founded by H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden and looks after the weakest members of society: young, single mothers and abused children.

To date with this annual Dragon regatta for the good cause, the amount of 740,000 Euros for the CHILDHOOD organisation has been raised.

In 2003 he started to crew for Ulli Libor on a second-hand Dragon and he helped the Class in 2004 to finance the 75 the Anniversary celebrations in St. Tropez. His company was title sponsor at the 2005 World Championship in Germany, Neustadt and after that he initiated the Dragon Grand Prix in Germany Kiel/Strande.

His enthusiasm for the Dragon Class was outstanding and he was one of the most important sponsors of the Dragon Class.

We will remember Harro always as a state-of-the-art sailor and a distinguished helmsman.

His son Justus and the team around the Dragon Grand Prix are enthusiastically performing with preparations for the upcoming Dragon Grand Prix for the benefit of the CHILDHOOD Foundation.

We heartily welcome his son, Justus, into our Class to succeed our great friend Harro.

On behalf of the entire International Dragon Association we salute Harro and thank him for his fantastic enthusiasm and support for our Class.

IDA

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Harro Kniffka