



Since 1983, every year the classic International Eight Metre yachts race for what is by far the most prestigious Trophy in their class. Very few in the class know the story and the deed of gift of the Sira Cup. With the help of Ralph Reimann I have gathered the available information. I hope that we will be able to continue to race for decades to come in the true spirit of our wonderful Eight Metre Class in and at all time the SIRA Cup will be granted to the winning yacht respecting the wishes of the late King of Norway Olav V and the late Erik Anker, son of the great Norwegian yacht designer Johan Anker.

The deed of gift

"It has been a pronounced wish that the change of rules resolved last year should not have a too destructing effect on the 8mR's constructed according to the past rule. KNS have therefore in agreement with IEMA donated a cup to be named SIRA Cup, donated July 19, 1983 by his Majesty King Olav V to be raced for by all recognised 8mR yachts designed and built before 1960 and answering to the rule of the old 8mR requirements. The SIRA Cup shall be held by IEMA and raced for in accordance with above and detailed instructions from IEMA. if possible at the same time as the World Cup.
July 26, 1983."

The story behind the SIRA Cup

In 1939, the then Crown Prince of Norway Olav, was travelling in the U.S.A. with his wife, Crown Princess of Norway Martha. In his absence the great Norwegian yacht designer Johan Anker sailed the Crown Prince's Eight Metre Sira in the Kattegat Cup for that year, which Sira had also won the year before in Marstand. Young Erik Anker was on board as a crew member. Subsequent to the Kattegat Cup in 1939, during the national Championships, Erik's father had to go away to Oslo for a few days and young Erik Anker was allowed to Skipper Sira and won the series and the Cup, established by K.N.S.

When Crown Prince Olav returned from the USA he graciously allowed young Erik Anker to keep the Cup as a souvenir. For 44 years, from 1939 to 1983 the Cup was under the tender care of Eva, Erik's wife. During the Eight Metre World Cup races at Hankø, Norway in 1983, His Majesty King Olav V and Erik Anker generously decided to donate the Cup to the best "vintage"

Eight Metre yacht designed and built before 1960 as a sentimental gesture and to keep the "vintage" class yachts going.

As an aside, although not specifically stated in the letter of Erik Anker, the grapevine has it that the only one who did not wholeheartedly support the idea was Erik's wife who, for 44 years, had polished the Cup and carefully tended to its prominent display in their living room.

Winners of the SIRA Cup

Year	Location	Yacht	Owner	Designer
1983		Hankø - Norway	Vision	Robin Clarke
1984		RCYC - Canada	Vision	Robin Clarke
1985		Rochester - USA	Vision	Robin Clarke
1986		Cannes - France	Ayana	Walter Latscha

1987	Helsinki - Finland	Wye	Sigfrid Svensson
1988	Sandham - Sweden	Wanda	Lasse Björk
1989	RCYC - Canada	Venture II	Lorne Corley
1990	Rochester - USA	Venture II	Lorne Corley
1991	PCYC - Canada	Venture II	Lorne Corley
1992	Sandham - Sweden	Isabel	Bo Persson
1993	Helsinki - Finland	Andromeda	Ola & Ulf Nilsson

1994	Cannes - France	Vision	Eric Mallet
1995	Medemblik - Holland	Vision	Eric Mallet
1996	Sodus Bay - USA	Iskareen	Ralph Reimann
1998	Geneva - Switzerland	Vision	Eric Mallet
1999	Rochester - USA	Norseman	Cedric G. E. Gyles
2000	Porto St.Stefano Italy	Vision	Eric Mallet
2002	NJK – Helsinki	Bona	Dr. Giovanni Mogna

2003

SNT – France

Bona

Dr. Giovanni Mogna

2004

SNG – Switzerland

Cutty Tou

Alain & Gilles Minos

2005

RCYC Toronto

Iskareen

Ralph Reimann

2006

Lindau, Germany

Froya

Peter Groh

2007

The Clyde, Scotland

Saskia

John & Micheal Stephen

2008

Hankö, Norway

Sira

His Majesty The King of

2009

Hyerès, France

Severn

Fred Meyer

2010	Toronto, Canada	Raven	Mark DeCelles and Rich
2011	Flensburg, Germany	Raven	Mark DeCelles and Rich
2012	Cowes, England	Raven	Mark DeCelles and Rich
2013	Helsinki - Finland	Raven	Mark DeCelles and Rich