

US SAILING Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, October 15, 2008
St. Petersburg, FL

Present: Dick Allsopp, Dean Brenner, President Jim Capron, Susan Epstein, Amy Gross-Kehoe, Vice President Tom Hubbell, Leslie Keller, Patty Lawrence, Jerry Montgomery, Bill Stump, Jim Tichenor, and non-voting Ex Officio members, Secretary Fred Hagedorn and Executive Director Charlie Leighton.

- 1) The meeting was called to order by President Capron at 7:08 pm EDT.
- 2) Secretary Hagedorn called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.
- 3) A **MOTION** to approve the Consent Calendar was made, seconded and approved.
 - a) Minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 4) President's Report. President Capron asked for a Moment of Silence for our fallen comrades in sailing, in particular, Philip Arms, Faye Bennett, George Fischer, Olin Stevens and Chuck Fuller. Capron then announced that the 2008 recipient of the Herreshoff Award will be Roy E. Disney. The board was then asked to carefully consider who US SAILING should vote for as ISAF Sailor of the Year as we will have a vote at our Sunday Meeting.
- 5) Executive Director Leighton shared that the Staff Presentations on Friday morning will provide the bulk of his report, but that this evening he would briefly discuss our Financials, the '09 Budget, the USOC Olympic Forum and the Theme of the Staff Presentations.

Financials. We are on target for a \$76,000 surplus. The annual appeal letter is in the mail. The Medalist Program for 2009 has the goal to obtain \$500,000 in commitments in support of our Olympic/Paralympic Program. Finally, the keelboat program is down in revenue.

FY 2009 Budget. The budget will show a small surplus with no lay-offs. We need to recognize that 2009 is going to be a difficult year economically, and to assist in managing through this, expenses will be placed in one of three categories: A) what we must do (e.g. our Championships), B) what we would like to do (e.g. the Report to Members), or C) what we will not do (e.g. the Chicago Boat Show).

USOC Olympic Forum. Leighton attended the USOC meetings a few weeks ago. The USOC is concerned about the economy, their budget capabilities, and fundraising. We have been given explicit permission to utilize the Olympic Rings by the USO for "non-commercial" uses for the coming quadrennium. Sports that are easy to understand and have an immediately recognizable winner are growing. Sports that have judges and/or are complicated to understand are not growing. One of the ways that we are attempting to meet this challenge and simplify entry into our sport is with the Handy Guide to the Racing Rules of Sailing. It was exciting to see that both Anna Tunnicliff and Nick Scandone/Maureen Mckinnon-Tucker were included in the highlight film on the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games! Finally, Leighton shared that Lord Colin Moynihan, the President of the GBR Olympic Committee, and Jim Scherr, the USOC General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, hope to attend a Rolex Miami OCR event together during the upcoming quadrennium.

Theme of the Staff Presentations. The goal of the presentation by the staff is to highlight how US SAILING has evolved into a “We” Organization. This will be demonstrated by the presentation being given by both staff members and volunteers who work closely together, by focusing our actions on what is best for US SAILING, by sharing what has changed between 2004 and now, and finally by sharing what US SAILING “could be” rather than always focusing on what it is.

- 6) Olympic Report. Chairman Brenner shared that the 4-year High Performance Plan was submitted earlier today to the USOC. The team will continue to be 3-deep in each event. Each athlete will need to sign a Commercial Agreement, in addition to the Athlete Agreement and the Athlete Code of Conduct in the coming Quad. Most of the money for athletes will be tied to the Commercial Agreement. The OSC is presently looking at the selection process for the 2012 Games, and is seriously considering utilizing more of an international event process rather than a trials process for many of the events in the Games. Brenner reminded the Board that the OSC not only met its commitment to not use any of the “Windfall Fund” in the first two years of the past quad, it also did not use any money from the fund in the final two years of the quad. Having said this, a request will be coming for funds in FY2009. Finally, the FY2009 draft budget is in good shape, but we are waiting to finalize the numbers from the USOC before bringing it to the Budget Committee.

The NOR for the Youth World Selection event has been released and will be corrected to show that US SAILING is the Organizing Authority of the event. Brenner also noted that Kenneth Andreasen, our new High Performance Director, will be at these meetings; please say hello. Finally, it is ISAF Submission time. The OSC has worked with the Match Racing Committee, US Windsurfing and the ISAF Delegation in preparing its recommendations which will be further discussed at the ISAF Delegation meeting.

- 7) Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Keller noted that the Draft of the Audit and the Draft Management Letter will be ready for the Board to see very shortly. Of particular note, there are NO proposed adjustments to our results, and we have made excellent progress toward completing all of the tasks set out for the Association by the auditors a year ago. The Board applauded CFO Bobbi Warren and her staff for their efforts and success! Keller also shared that the Form 990 is becoming 3 times as long in the next year.
- 8) A **MOTION** to appoint Mrs. Debi Schoenherr of Grosse Pointe, MI, a Trustee of the Mrs. Charles Francis Adams Cup was made, seconded and approved.
- 9) Old Business.
 - a) The Board of Directors reaffirmed that it will meet in-person on Sunday, January 11, 2009, at the NSPS in San Diego, CA. The Board is invited and encouraged to attend as much of the NSPS program on Saturday the 10th.
 - b) Director Epstein shared that the Windsurfing Task Force will make a presentation at the Joint Session of the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors on Saturday morning. In addition, a web page is in design.

10) New Business.

- a) It was noted that there were some issues with the on-line voting process accepting passwords. The issue was fixed and is being discussed at the Nominating and Governance Committee meeting this weekend. The discussion turned to the database project in general. A status report on the database will be given at the staff presentations on Friday morning. Leighton related that a search for an IT Director is in process and that he hopes to have him or her on board in the next 2-3 months.
- b) The Spring Meeting of Committees will be 2 weeks later than historically and it was requested that the process for setting major meeting dates like this be a part of the January meeting of the Board.

11) The meeting went into Executive Session at 8:38 pm EDT.

12) The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick H. Hagedorn
Secretary