

US SAILING Board of Directors Meeting  
October 27, 2011  
Lowes Hotel  
Annapolis, MD

Present: Ed Adams, Dean Brenner, Walter Chamberlain, John Craig, Susan Epstein, Secretary Fred Hagedorn, Stan Honey, Vice President Tom Hubbell, President Gary Jobson, Treasurer Leslie Keller, Maureen McKinnon-Tucker, Dawn Riley, Bill Stump and non-voting Ex Officio members Executive Director Jack Gierhart and House of Delegates Chair, Jim Walsh.

- 1) The meeting was called to order by President Jobson at 8:12 am EDT.
- 2) Secretary Hagedorn called the Roll and announced that a quorum was present.
- 3) Announcements
  - a) President Jobson announced that the 2011 Herreshoff Award recipient is Dave Rosekrans.
- 4) Consent Calendar – was **MOVED**, Seconded and APPROVED:
  - a) Minutes of the 9/19/2011 Meeting of the Board of Directors
  - b) Don Becker and Bruce Cook as Adjunct Members of the US SAILING Appeals Committee for the sole purpose of manning the Rapid Appeals for Protected Events when full-members of the Appeals Committee are not available.
  - c) Andrew J. Kiener as a Race Officer Emeritus at the recommendation of the Race Management Committee.
- 5) President's Report – President Jobson began with pointing out that we have a great staff. We are fortunate to have them and to have them so engaged in our sport and our organization.

We need to continue to improve our Race Administration certification process; especially we should recruit more and younger judges, umpires and race officers.

We need to continue to work on simplifying our Handicap System. We are focusing on PHRF, IRC and ORR, and a High Performance rule for sport boats.

Recently, Jobson and Director Ed Adams participated with a selected group of collegiate coaches regarding an issue we have noted. Namely, we are concerned that collegiate sailing has become too weight sensitive and that the ISCA should consider creating a minimum weight for two-person boats. This is an ongoing conversation, but the hope is that ISCA will be able to make it better for a broader weight set of sailors in college.

Our membership is growing and Executive Director Gierhart will provide more insight. We had over 400 participants at the YC Summit from 200 yacht clubs, and they went out across the country fully energized and excited. Our Website is strengthening with our new webmaster.

US SAILING Championships continue to improve, and need to continue to improve.

Our annual Board of Directors “Think-Tank” will be held on January 14, 2012 in Long Beach, CA in conjunction with our National Sail Programs Symposium (NSPS).

Finally, the National Sailing Hall of Fame inducted its first class of inductees last week in San Diego. Vice President Hubbell asked to recognize the selection of President Jobson and Paralympic Coach Betsy Allison on their induction into the Hall of Fame.

- 6) Executive Directors Report – Executive Director Gierhart noted that he and the staff will be presenting a full report at the Friday meeting at 8:00 am on October 28, 2011. Generally, we are on Budget and tracking well; membership is tracking well, and the sailor profile is helping us improve our communication processes. Fundraising is going very well with Dan Coney at the helm and he is mapping the revenue streams -- \$360K in Medalists and we already have received \$45K in our Annual Fund, and overall our total fundraising for the entire organization is in excess of \$600K. IT is stable and as noted earlier the website is getting stronger every day, and continues to be a point of focus for the staff.
- 7) Treasurer’s Report – The Audit Report and the Form 990 were sent out to the members of the Board in advance of the meeting.

**A MOTION**, was MADE, SECONDED and APPROVED to receive the Audit Report.

Treasurer Keller noted that the Auditors had no new issues and that our Financial Department is doing a great job. A full report will be made at the Friday morning meeting.

- 8) Olympic Report – Chairman Brenner shared that the USOC has announced \$1.8 MM in funding for 2012. This is a 100% increase from 2005. US SAILING’s one of the few NGBs to get an increase in funding over the past year (\$90K). Despite the current economic climate innovative approaches continue to emerge.... One of our current Medalists hosted a dinner and two new medalists resulted. Yacht clubs continue to sign up as medalists via special events. We have begun negotiations for the title sponsor for the next quad.

At the Pan Am Games, USA won 4 Silvers and 2 Bronze medals.

The Women’s Match Racing Trials have begun in Biscayne Bay this week. The top 4 finishes will go to our finals in Weymouth, UK, in May 2012.

President Jobson then took the floor to remind us that the Olympic Sailing Program succession planning committee that has been assembled: Gary Jobson (Chair), Carol Cronin, Zack Leonard, Time Sipe, Bill Campbell and Tim Wadlow.

- 9) The updated Logo for the association was presented by Executive Director Gierhart. Secretary Hagedorn noted that the Marketing and Communications Committee are in favor of the change.

**A MOTION** was MADE, SECONDED and APPROVED the Board of Director’s endorsement of the new logo.

A further aspect of the review by the Marketing Department is the elimination of the requirement to capitalize all the letters of our shortened name, US SAILING. The Bylaws committee is reviewing the Bylaws to determine if this requires a formal change or could be a clerical change.

10) Old Business – Treasurer Keller asked the status of the initiated change to Regulation 8.09 regarding the “Windfall Fund.” Her reason is that she is not sure that the percentage of annual award is the best for the fund. The Regulation will come before the Board on October 29, and a motion to amend the percentage would be in order.

11) New Business

- a) President Jobson pointed out that the three safety investigation reports will be presented at the Saturday, October 29, 2011, Luncheon.
- b) There will be a conversation with Collegiate Sailors on Saturday morning at 8:30 am and the Board of Directors is requested to be in attendance.
- c) President Jobson then put forward the question: We have 371 days until 5 – 7 of our directors will leave the board; what should be our big focus for the rest of our term?

Each Board member listed one to three issues they see as they see as important for the organization to be focused upon. During the discussion the following themes emerged:

- To make access to sailing easier, especially for those sailors who are in their twenties and thirties when they have less disposable income, but are the future of our sport, and we should want to keep them engaged;
- “Solve” the Handicap Rules challenge. Make the measurement process simpler and uniform and above all else, paperless;
- We need to remember that Sailing is a Community, in many ways it is a culture – not simply an activity;
- Education – of sailors, instructors, race officials continues to be a high priority for our association;
- Engage more sailors in the association, especially in their 20s and 30s.
- It is all about Safe, Fair and Fun on the water.

Finally, Bill Stump was on the phone, and wanted a moment to thank the association for the opportunity to serve as a member of our Board of Directors and to thank his colleagues on the Board for their support and friendship.

12) The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am EDT

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick H. Hagedorn  
Secretary