

US SAILING Board of Directors Meeting  
May 29, 2012  
Teleconference

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

Guests: Charley Cook, Rob Overton, Dick Rose and Cory Sertl.

- 1) The meeting was called to order by President Jobson at 7:30 pm EDT.
- 2) President Jobson called the Roll and announced that a quorum was present.
- 3) Announcements
  - a) none.
- 4) Consent Calendar  
The approval of the Consent Calendar was **MOVED**, Seconded and APPROVED. The following were therefore approved:
  - a) Minutes from April 20, 2012, as corrected;
  - b) Request by the US Tasar Class to host the 2013 Tasar World Championships in August of 2013 in Cascade Locks, OR.
- 5) President's Report – President Jobson shared that the two Safety Reports are in the works – Sally Honey's group regarding the Farallon Island Race, and Bruce Brown's group regarding the Newport-Ensenada Race. The US Coast Guard is pleased with US Sailing's engagement in these studies and our safety leadership, they appreciate how we are raising the awareness for safety. We are beginning to receive more feedback from sailors regarding the ISAF decision to drop Windsurfing in favor of Kite-boarding at the 2016 Olympics. President Jobson is recommending a summit where leaders from both styles of racing can share their views with US Sailing. Finally, the Olympic and Paralympic Teams are in Weymouth gearing up for Sail-For-Gold.
- 6) Executive Director's Report – Jack Gierhart reported that we are continuing to work on the planning for a 3-day combined seminar in January or February of 2014 that will include tracks found at the Yacht Club Summit, the One-Design Sailing Symposium, and the NSPS. We have set up an internal staff RFP Working Group, and are getting some learning from US Lacrosse and other NGB Conferences. Although Merchandising is still showing a negative variance, it is improving through the efforts to integrate product purchases with training registration processes and with membership renewals. Promotions have been revamped and we are starting to see an increase in sales.  
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The Membership Matters Campaign is about to launch at 27 clubs across the USA. The good news is that membership numbers are already strong before the campaign begins, so we are looking for some positive impact.

- 7) Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Leslie Keller reported that the audit field work is complete and that the Form 990 is the next item of business, followed by the actual Audit Report. A business process review of the Accounting Software will be taking place in the third week of June. And relative to our Cash Flow, it is positive enough to permit us to return \$400,000 to the deferred membership account, where it had been borrowed to even out cash flow earlier in the year.
- 8) Olympic Report – Chairman Brenner is in Weymouth for Sail for Gold. We have 16 Olympians and 6 Paralympians supported by staff and some development team members on the ground. Last week, at the World Cup event in Medemblick, The Netherlands, we had some very positive results for our Development Team Members with Chris Paine winning the Finn Class Gold Medal and Charlie Buckingham finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in the Laser Class. For the first time, we held a 5-day team building retreat for the Olympic Sailing Team in the Canary Islands, all of our athletes attended except for the Star team. It has been many years since the whole team has been brought together to a camp like this and it had some very positive impacts on our sailors, in their opinions.
- 9) US Sailing Prescriptions to the 2013-2016 Racing Rules of Sailing – Rob Overton, assisted by Dick Rose, presented the proposed Prescriptions to the Board for approval. With one style change, they were unchanged from those presented and discussed at the April 20 meeting of the Board. A **MOTION**, was MADE, SECONDED and APPROVED to adopt the prescriptions as presented by the Racing Rules Committee.

A new issue was also raised, namely a potential need for a prescription to RRS 69.2(c) – regarding the criterion of proof. This is a change in the rules in 2013 and the Racing Rules Committee needs a little more time to better understand its implications and how it would junction with US Law, and with the Sports Act. The Racing Rules Committee hopes to have an update at the June 25 meeting of the Board.

President Jobson asked if we are close to rules that endure, or will they always be changing. Dick Rose opined that most changes are clarifications rather than changes in the game, they are mildly encouraged by the ISAF.

- 10) ISAF Update – Cory Sertl reported that the IOC has commented to the ISAF Leadership that their governing meetings are very long and that they should consider dropping their mid-year meeting. The ISAF Executive has taken this under advisement and will report back to the ISAF Membership and Council with any suggested changes at some point in the future. Charley Cook shared that the IOC is very pleased with the decision to include Kite Boards in the 2016 Games, but we can expect that there will be a motion at the November 2012 ISAF Meeting to reconsider this decision.
- 11) Olympic Director Search. President Jobson reported on the search. 15 resumes have been received and after reviewing them the initial search committee has grouped the candidates. Of these, the Board agreed that five should be further investigated over the next month or so. To this end, President Jobson named an interviewing team of Carol Cronin and Tim Wadlow – athletes, Director George Hinman, Executive Director Jack Gierhart and chaired by President Jobson. This group is tasked with meeting the five finalists and in bringing a ranking to the Board.

12)Old Business – None

13)New Business –

- a) The issue regarding the Kite-boarding vs. Windsurfing equipment decision for the 2016 Olympic Games was brought forward for further discussion. It was agreed that President Jobson, with assistance from Directors Epstein, McKinnon and Craig, would host a conversation with the leaders of both camps and report back to the Board at our June 25 meeting with what they learn.
- b) National Sailing Hall of Fame and US Sailing have a loose alliance, approved in principle by this Board many years ago. President Jobson and Director Hinman will enter into discussions with the leadership of the National Sailing Hall of Fame to develop a better defined and more formal statement of our relationship. It is hoped that this will be ready for the June 25 meeting of the Board.
- c) Director Chamberlain raised some questions about the Mallory and Adams decision for a one year hiatus and noted that he did not believe that the Adams Trust had been properly informed and engaged in the discussions. The Board assigned the committee responsible for these two events to formalize a strategy to revitalize each of the events. The Chair of the committee will be reminded to include the Trust, as an entity, not simply a single member of the trust, in her future communications. The Draft Report should be ready in the next month or so and will be widely distributed for comment and support.

14)Executive Session – The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 8:24 pm EDT.

- a) As a result of discussions held in Executive Session, it was **MOVED, SECONDED** and **APPROVED** to authorize the President, in conjunction with the Compensation Committee, to enter into negotiations with the Association's first choice to fill the Olympic Director position, and to bring back the final proposal to the Board for final approval.

15)The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick H. Hagedorn  
Secretary

A special note of thanks to Vice President Tom Hubbell and Executive Director Jack Gierhart for their notes, as I was detained from joining the call until just prior to the Executive Session.