



**2012- 2013 US Sailing Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Saturday, October 19, 2013**  
**Captiva, FL**

In attendance: Board: Josh Adams, Vice President Bruce Burton, John Craig, JJ Fetter, Susan Epstein, Executive Director Jack Gierhart, George Hinman, President Tom Hubbell, Secretary Patty Lawrence, Ben Richardson, Dawn Riley, Treasurer Taran Teague, Jim Walsh

Regrets: Ed Adams and Maureen McKinnon

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM EDT and a roll call established a quorum.
2. Committee members and division reports approved. The Division reports are included as part of the meeting minutes.
3. The Consent Calendar, comprised of the October 16, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes, was approved.
4. Committee Reports and Requests for Action:
  - Hank Stuart delivered a Race Administration Division Report. He thanked the Board for approving the revised Judges Manual and noted that the Classifications Committee has been very busy. He will provide a full report at the November Board meeting.
  - Jim Muldoon, Chair of the Government Relations Committee, noted that US Sailing has received \$1.5 million in grants in the last eight years. The National Boating Safety Advisory Council has two legislative priorities going forward: life jacket requirements and mandatory on the water education. NBSA maintains that ethanol should remain under 15% because of damage to marine engines and is requesting that there are labels with fuel content. The US and Canada are working on standardizing life jackets. The government sequestration has frozen the NBSA budget. One need is for recreational boaters to participate in area maritime groups, that is the most effective way to make legislative progress. Jim is happy to provide contact information.
  - Tom Duggan requested that the board approve the revised US Safety Equipment Requirements which were presented to the Board at the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Safety at Sea Committee gave a final vetting of the revisions at their meeting this weekend. The SAS Committee plans an annual review of the requirements to be presented to the Board each December.  
A motion was made seconded and approved to adopt the US Safety Equipment Requirements.
  - Rob Overton asked that the Board amend The US Prescription to rule 86.3 reading, ***“US Sailing prescribes that proposed rules may be tested, but only in local races. However, proposed rules may also be tested at other events if, for each event, the organizing authority first obtains written permission from US Sailing and the proposed rules are included in the notice of race and sailing instructions. Go to [ussailing.org/racingrules/documents](http://ussailing.org/racingrules/documents) and click the ‘Experimental Rules’ link for more information.”***  
At present, there is no mechanism for US Sailing to grant such permission, and the web address in the prescription does not exist.

Proposal



1. Add to regulation 4.04 Racing Rules Committee the following sentence: “Decides what action to take in response to requests for permission to test proposed rules under the US Prescription to rule 86.3.”
2. Establish the following procedure for requesting permission to test proposed rules, and post a description of this procedure at the address given in the prescription.

Requests for permission to test proposed rules should be sent to the Race Administration Director. The Director will forward the request to the chairman of the Racing Rules Committee for action. The Race Administration Director will communicate the Racing Rules Committee decision to the applicant.

Reason

The decision about what tests to run on rules is clearly best made by the Racing Rules Committee, which will be responsible for drafting any changes that come out of such tests. Requests for such changes, and the US Sailing response, are best handled by the US Sailing office.

A motion was made, seconded and passed.

- On behalf of the Committee for Sailors with Disabilities, Stu Gilfillen requested the board approve the following:

The US Sailing Committee for Sailors with Disabilities requests that the Board of Directors approve of the US Adaptive Sailing Center Sanctioning Program so that the CSWD can begin reviewing applications and begin sanctioning centers in 2014.

This program reaffirms our commitment to adaptive sailing, has a low impact on staff while raising visibility for adaptive sailors. The needs of sailors with both cognitive and physical disabilities will be addressed.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to begin the sanctioning program.

4. A motion was made seconded and carried to approve the updated committee chair list.
5. Old Business: the Board voted to approve the 2014 Hansa Worlds.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm EDT.

Respectfully Submitted  
Patty Lawrence

Attachments: Division reports  
Committee Chair list