



2014- 2015 US Sailing Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

December 18, 2014

WebEx 7:30 PM EST

In attendance: Board: Josh Adams, Steve Benjamin, Vice President Bruce Burton, JJ Fetter, Executive Director Jack Gierhart, Chuck Hawley, George Hinman, President Tom Hubbell, Secretary Patty Lawrence, Sheila McCurdy, Maureen McKinnon, Cory Sertl, and Treasurer Taran Teague.

Regrets: Maureen McKinnon, Ben Richardson and Dave Ullman

Guests included: Matt Hill, Diana Kareta, and Chris Luppens

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm EST and a roll call established a quorum.
2. The announcements included information about the:
 - US Sailing Team Sperry Top-Sider Team dinner in Miami, FL January 24 and the board meeting on January 25 where the Offshore initiative and Olympic review on agenda.
 - Management, Small Boat, Venues Division Report due one week prior to the February 23 meeting.
3. Consent Calendar, consisting of:
 - Meeting Minutes Approval from November meeting.
 - Committee Chair and Member List (pending the removal of Jim Teeters as a staff contact.)Was moved, seconded and approved.
4. President Tom Hubbell submitted a written report which will also be reflected in his blog. Tom is finding the US Sailing Presidency rewarding.
5. Executive Director Jack Gierhart submitted a written report but highlighted:
 - Fundraising is strong in December and we met our goal.
 - Member retention remains strong at 77-80% and although membership is up over last year, we did not meet our numbers goal.
 - The SAP signed contract is being delivered on Monday which places us in a position to significantly impact big boat racing. The core development team is having a strategy meeting in January and will announce the good news.
 - Gift memberships are available from the store because of technical reasons, however, a link will be added to the membership page.
6. Treasurer Taran Teague reported that through November we are above budget and Windhaven is doing as expected.
7. Jack Gierhart, with support from Diana Kareta and Chris Luppens, presented the 2015 budget to the Board and recommended that the Board approve the Budget Committee's recommendations.

A few of the discussion points included: the REACH Program will have a surplus; Inshore change in both revenue and expenses as Lee Parks works both with ISAF and human resources; the



budget does not include the NOODs sanctioning; the Offshore department is a work in progress and everyone is onboard to eliminate the negative line item. The offshore budget is expected to improve; Healthcare costs are up some.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget, as presented, included all departments of the association, except the Olympic Department. The motion carried.

Going forward, Jack would like to budget a few years out and also evaluate a few programs that are only popular with a few. Diana did a phenomenal job and Jack thanked her for her good work.

8. In his Olympic Report, Josh Adams addressed two major initiatives:
 - Selections procedures for the 2016 Olympic Games were announced last week. This includes two regattas and points system for every class. The goal is to establish the best selection process to ensure the best sailors are on the Olympic Team.
 - Josh was pleased to announce that Sunbrella Fabrics signed on as is a Gold-level sponsor of the US Sailing Team Sperry Top-Sider for the Olympic and Paralympic sailing teams and also as the presenting sponsor of ISAF Sailing World Cup Miami. This is high level and much appreciated support for both the Olympic and Paralympics teams. Josh extended kudos to Martha Pitt for making it happen.

9. Staff Connection and Division Reports
Matt Hill delivered the Race Administration Division report. There is a written report and Matt highlighted the following.
 - There are 940 race officials certified.
 - Club race officer is the largest category and he would like to grow club judges.

Jack noted that Matt is doing an incredible job navigating race officials, judges, and umpires. Three week ago the staff, Division Chair and committee chairs meet and agreed that is standardization and consolidation are needed for process and procedures.

Shannon Bush and Liz Walker presented the Championship Division Report. Eastern YC is unable to hosting the Youth Champs this July and they are looking for a new East Coast venue. The Championship and Race Administration Divisions have worked on new Regulations that have been vetted by the legal committee. In order to increase the profile of the Mallory Cup, they are working on a new selection and hope to have that completed soon.

Two items that will be needing attention:

- Shannon introduced the idea of stipends for race officers. Many want their expenses covered (plane fare) but are stilling willing to volunteer their time officiating events. This would be paid for with raised entry fees or sponsorship. Tom requested that Shannon to work up a proposal with more detail.



- There is a working group of junior championship chairs and they are looking into having a similar committee for the adult championships.
10. Old Business. There were four governance issues up for a vote under old business. All had been previously discussed at board meetings and now have been vetted by the bylaws committee where appropriate.
- A motion was made and seconded to update Regulation 10, which is a rewrite to include race management and judging requirements for US Sailing Championships. After a discussion, the Board felt that section 10.3 needed further review so that section of the Regulations was tabled. The motion to accept the remainder of Regulation 10 passed.
 - A motion was made and seconded to approve the renumbering of Regulations 4.02 which combines all Match Racing Championships into a single committee. The motion carried.
 - A motion was made and seconded to amend Regulations 4.05 which is a complete rewrite 4.05 and change the title to "US Offshore." The motion carried. This includes:
US Sailing and its OD shall actively promote and support PHRF as the broad entry level handicap rule of choice, and also give all major active rules in the US equal opportunity. The US-UMS and other tools should be utilized to help all of the rules better meet the needs of US sailors. The OD shall strive to objectively educate race organizers and others about the merits of the various rules and how to select a rule or rules to best balance participation, accuracy, and meaningful competition.
 - A motion was made and seconded to update the 2015 Safety Equipment Regulations. The motion carried. (Attached)
11. New Business
- Each board member is asked to liaise with a division.
 - Each board member is asked to liaise with three RSA's. Please send your preferences to the secretary.
 - The Board share reflections of the organization.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Lawrence