

US SAILING
Information Notebook
for
Area Directors
and
Regional Sailing Associations

THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL OF SAILING ASSOCIATIONS

The Council of Sailing Associations (CSA or Council) is the organization within US SAILING, that represents the delegate-based member sailing organizations and through them the individual sailor. By their application for and election to membership in US SAILING these organizations accept the responsibility to carry out, in their respective areas, the purposes for which US SAILING was organized. [US SAILING Bylaw 202, Section 4. (2)]

The CSA is composed of the officers of the Council, representatives from the Areas and the Regional Sailing Associations (RSAs), the chair of the Championships Committee, and appointees to designated committees of the Council and US SAILING.

The jurisdiction of US SAILING is geographically divided into eleven Areas, shown on the map on page 3. The eleven Areas have within their boundaries 38 RSAs, each representing a region within an Area.

Each Area has an Area director who serves both on the Council and in the US SAILING House of Delegates. The Areas coordinate the sailing programs of the RSAs; schedule and conduct championship events; provide coordination of judges and race officers; and serve as liaison with US SAILING.

Each RSA is a member of the CSA and has a named representative on the Council. The RSAs carry out certain functions of US SAILING, and serve as conduits for services from US SAILING to the organizations and the individual sailors within their membership.

Officers of the Council are the elected chair, vice-chair, and secretary. These officers and the immediate past-chair of the CSA, the chair of the Championships Committee, and the eleven Area directors, comprise the CSA Executive Committee. The Executive Committee sets agendas and proposes courses of action. The chair of the CSA serves a term of one year in the US SAILING House of Delegates.

The Council promotes and supports the activities of US SAILING. It provides a forum for member organizations and individuals to present their views to US SAILING's officers, Board of Directors, House of Delegates, committees, and staff. CSA identifies problem areas and opportunities mutual to RSAs and the areas, and recommends solutions to benefit sailors with improved services, educational/training programs, better racing, and stronger and more efficient race administration.

The Council encourages participation and membership in US SAILING.

Geographic Areas

MISSION OF 11 US SAILING AREAS

To facilitate communications with sailors and to provide a representative system, the geographic jurisdiction of US SAILING is divided into eleven Areas. Each Area is represented by an Area director (AD). The Area director is a member of US SAILING's House of Delegates (see Bylaw 223-Delegate Eligibility). The AD is also a member of the Executive Committee of the CSA. The Area directors are elected by the Council (CSA Bylaws, Article VI, 1.) from nominees submitted by the Regional Sailing Associations (RSAs). If, by agreement, an Area nominates only one candidate, then that candidate becomes the nominee. Area directors serve for staggered two-year terms, that is:

Areas B, D, F, H, J, L - Term expires in even years.

Areas A, C, E, G, K - Term expires in odd years.

Several of the eleven Areas have formal Area organizations that meet on a regular basis to coordinate championship events, arrange judging for these events, and provide a forum for the exchange of information among the Area's RSAs, on matters of mutual interest. The organization of Area A, the New England Yacht Racing Council, serves this purpose and Area F has a similar organization.

A roster of US SAILING Area directors and RSA representatives to US SAILING is contained on our website at http://www.ussailing.org/csa/Areas_&_Regions/index.htm and attached as a separate PDF file on the CSA homepage and directly below

Regional Sailing Associations in the United States:

<u>ABREV</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>NAME</u>
BBYRA	C	BARNEGAT BAY YACHT RACING ASSN.
CNYYRA	B	CENTRAL NEW YORK YACHT RACING ASSN.
CSSA	F	CENTRAL STATES SAILING ASSN.
CBYRA	C	CHESAPEAKE BAY YACHT RACING ASSN.
DCYRA	C	DEEP CREEK YACHT RACING ASSN.
DRYA	E	DETROIT REGIONAL YACHT RACING ASSN.
DIYRA	D	DIXIE INLAND YACHT RACING ASSN.
ECSA	B	EASTERN CONNECTICUT SAILING ASSN.
ELIYA	B	EASTERN LONG ISLAND SAILING ASSN.
FSA	D	FLORIDA SAILING ASSN.
GSBYRA	B	GREAT SOUTH BAY YACHT RACING ASSN.
GYA	D	GULF YACHTING ASSN.
HYRA	H	HAWAII YACHT RACING ASSN.
HRYRA	B	HUDSON RIVER YACHT RACING ASSN.

ILYRA	K	INLAND LAKE YACHTING ASSN.
ILYA	K	INTER-LAKE YACHTING ASSN.
LHYA	E	LAKE HURON YACHT ASSN.
LMSRF	K	LAKE MICHIGAN SAIL RACING FEDERATION
LSYA	K	LAKE SUPERIOR YACHT ASSN.
LYRA	E	LAKE YACHT RACING ASSN.
NSA	A	NORTHEAST SAILING ASSN.
MBSA	A	MASSACHUSETTS BAY SAILING ASSN.
MAYRA	C	MID ATLANTIC YACHT RACING ASSN.
MSA	K	MIDWEST SAILING ASSN.
NBYA	A	NARRAGANSETT BAY YACHTING ASSN.
NJYRA	C	NORTH JERSEY YACHT RACING ASSN.
NRSA	L	NOTHERN ROCKIES SAILING ASSN
OVSA	E	OHIO VALLEY SAILING ASSN.
PIYA	L	PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL YACHTING ASSN.
SAIL	F	SAILING ASSN. OF INTERMOUNTAIN LAKES
SAYRA	D	SOUTH ATLANTIC YACHT RACING ASSN.
SCYA	J	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA YACHTING ASSN.
SMSA	A	SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS SAILING ASSN.
TSA	F	TEXAS SAILING ASSN.
VISA	B	VIRGIN ISLANDS SAILING ASSN.
YRALIS	B	YACHT RACING ASSN. OF LONG ISLAND SOUND
YRASFB	G	YACHT RACING ASSN. OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY
YRUSC	J	YACHT RACING UNION OF SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA		

For more information on Regional Sailing Associations, visit
www.ussailing.org/csa/Areas_&_Regions.

US SAILING AREA DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

The Area director, as prescribed in the US SAILING bylaws, is a voting member of the House of Delegates with the responsibility of communicating the opinions, needs and desires of the RSAs, sailing/yacht clubs, and sailors in his Area. In turn, any decisions or policies enacted are to be communicated to the RSAs, keeping them fully informed.

Area directors (ADs) are the primary representatives between Regional Sailing Associations (RSAs) in their respective Areas, and the US SAILING officers, Board of Directors, House of Delegates, and committees.

Area directors are members of the Council of Sailing Associations (CSA) and serve on its executive committee. In addition, the Area directors may serve as liaisons to the Government Relations Committee.

Area directors are vital to overseeing the appointment of individuals to represent Areas on US SAILING committees. (See US SAILING Regulation 6.03.)

Area directors supervise and work to ensure the satisfactory conduct of RSA and Area championships, which produce competitors to the US SAILING national championships. This is an extremely important function for the AD in preserving the quality of the championships.

Area directors are elected by the Council of Sailing Associations at the Council's annual meeting. (CSA Bylaws, Article VI, 1.)

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

The Council of Sailing Associations has two permanent committees and appoints representatives to US SAILING councils and committees, as may be required by the US SAILING Bylaws and Regulations.

1. Nominating Committee for CSA officers

This committee is appointed by the incumbent CSA Chair and is composed of not less than three CSA members. The committee is chaired by the immediate past Chair of the CSA

Current members of the CSA Nominating Committee are listed on the CSA Web Site.

2. CSA Services Review Committee

This Committee is tasked to review the current activities of CSA and US SAILING with regard to services required to strengthen the bond between individual sailors and the US SAILING organization. Existing services are reviewed for effectiveness and new services are reviewed for potential advantages. The CSA chair appoints the members of this committee annually.

3. CSA Representative to the US SAILING Nominating and Governance Committee.

A representative from CSA serves on US SAILING's Nominating and Governance Committee.

Current members of the CSA Nominating Committee , Services Review Committee, and the CSA Representative to the US SAILING Nominating and Governance Committee are listed on the CSA website at <http://www.ussailing.org/csa>.

GUIDELINES FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF REGIONAL SAILING ASSOCIATIONS

The CSA bylaws are listed at www.ussailing.org/bylaws/. Regional Sailing Associations may use these existing bylaws for a periodic review of the functions and purpose of their RSA, to ensure that their organization is optimized to serve the grass roots sailor and improve sailing programs within their Area.

As the number of RSAs is not limited, it is possible and encouraged that where a need exists, a new RSA may be established. To initiate this process the new group should forward a letter, via the applicable Area director to the chair of the CSA, requesting formal recognition. The CSA will, after review of the organization's proposed jurisdictional area, purpose, and bylaws, request that the House of Delegates move that the new RSA be approved by the Board of Directors of US SAILING.

Each RSA is encouraged to establish a Service Center. A Service Center can be as simple as a person assigned by the RSA to answer questions that require local information, such as what boat to race in the area, what is an appropriate sailing club to join, how to join, etc. The contact point of an RSA that has established a Center or a contact person will be posted on the website. The Service Center concept offers an opportunity for:

- US SAILING to provide services through the RSAs to more sailors and thus build membership.
- RSAs to build the capability to provide more services to local sailors.
- RSAs to gain recognition within US SAILING for the contribution made by RSAs to the organization.

MEETING ATTENDANCE TIPS

CSA usually meets twice a year, during the US SAILING Spring and Fall Meetings, to conduct its business, to make available its representatives to various other committees for their meetings, and to serve as a conduit for information from the grass roots to the US SAILING Board of Directors and vice versa. Except for those few meetings designated on the schedule as "closed", all meetings are open (within space limitations) to any who wish to attend as observers. Attendance at these meetings is encouraged.

On checking in to the meeting facility (hotel), ask where the US SAILING Registration Area is located. Usually, it is set up in a large open hallway adjoining a major ballroom or meeting area that is to be used for House of Delegates and Board of Directors meetings. It will be open during normal working hours. There will also be a Staff Office reasonably nearby, where typing, duplicating, limited computing equipment, and other office services are located.

At the Registration Desk you will be given a packet with the latest meeting schedules and locations, a map of the meeting rooms, an evaluation questionnaire, information about the local area, social events, and other items of interest. A bulletin board with updated information is located there. Check it frequently for messages. Various items of information are usually available for the taking and desirable merchandise may be available for purchase.

Check your packet for the meeting schedules. The Board of Directors or House of Delegates usually meets from 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM each day. On Sunday the Board meeting usually ends by Noon. For CSA members there are few conflicts and attendance at the House and Board Meetings is encouraged in order to obtain an overall view of matters to be addressed. CSA's executive committee usually meets Thursday night and the first session of the Council meeting usually follows immediately after the Board on Friday morning. CSA's second session usually meets during the last afternoon of the last full day. Other than these meetings, you are free to attend other committees to which you may belong or just sit in on those of interest. Limited sightseeing is also possible.

Extra copies of agendas and minutes are generally available on tables at the rear of each meeting room. You are free to take these with you. Pack lightly to save space for these in your luggage. We welcome questions...and please do not hesitate to introduce yourself. We too have been first-timers.

Revision_Epstein_3/07