



UNITED STATES PERFORMANCE HANDICAP RACING FLEET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2007 [1300 – 1430] Hyatt Regency Newport Newport, Rhode island

The USPHRF Committee is a technical rule committee of US Sailing supporting local and regional Performance Handicap Racing Fleets affiliated with US SAILING. The Committee promotes the sport of racing for monohull and multihull sailing yachts by applying empirical methods for performance handicapping. Details about the committee, its officers, members, and affiliated fleets may be viewed at <http://www.ussailing.org/phrf/>.

1. The meeting was called to order at 1330. The delayed start resulted from an unscheduled meeting inserted into meeting schedule.
2. Roll Call
 - Present: P. Ansfield, B. Bingman, W. Baxter, B. Kellner, D. Schaefer, J. Tichenor, J. Walsh, and R. Warnecke
 - Apologies: J. Collins, A. McMillan, C. Price, T. Ritter, D. Ross
3. Upon a motion and second the Minutes of Fall 2006 meeting were approved and adopted.
4. Announcements
 - a) The Chair described procedures and paths for submitting action items and reports to the Board of Directors and House of Delegates. These are detailed on the US SAILING web site.
 - b) The Chair noted the status of the US SAILING website describing its new look and switch over to new servers and tools to maintain Committee and Council web pages.
5. Reports to the Committee
 - a) The Chair reviewed handicap procedures and obligations of a US PHRF Fleet and appellant
 - b) Bruce Bingman reported on the first PHRF National Championship held at Key West Race week. The event was successful and will be repeated with a few tweaks to the scoring algorithms. The scoring for the Championship was reviewed and Bruce noted results appear on the Key West Race Week web site. He further reviewed the performance and finishes of boats in all PHRF sections. Bruce noted that the event qualifies a participant as a Sailor Athlete.
 - c) Offshore Office
 - (i). Dan Nowlan, Offshore Director and Jim Teeters, Assistant Offshore Director summarized number of certificates issued for all rules and the number of boats handicapped for all US PHRF fleets taken together.
 - (ii) How should handicappers quantify the effects of jib overlaps on the speed potential of handicapped boats? This is the most frequent question asked by the fleets directed to the Offshore Office. While no definitive answers or specific techniques were provided, it was noted that a “ratio” of overlap size to the 100% foretriangle needed to be built as a guideline. There are some studies underway that may produce specific guidelines for PHRF handicappers.
 - (iii) Teeters and Nowlan reviewed ways in which their Office can aid fleet handicappers and PHRF sailors. Fee based products and services to LMPHRF Sailors were shown and described. Technical Assistance to fleet handicappers from the Offshore Office is available.

6. Old Business

- a) The Committee was reminded that the latest organizational changes, operational and management updates may be found on the US SAILING Website. The Board of Directors and the House of Delegates web pages should be checked frequently.
- b) ISAF updates
 - i. Preliminary report from the ISAF working party regarding standard parameters for describing and measuring sails is due late April. When filed, the report will be forwarded to the Committee.
 - ii. An ISAF In-House certification program (IHC to franchise certification of boats and equipment is proposed such that Member National Authorities will be granted a franchise to carry out the program. It is still not clear what the implications are of obtaining a franchise or not. Committee and Council Chairs are to learn more about the program and act as appropriate at this Spring Meeting.
- c) Appeal procedures were reviewed. The Committee was reminded that affiliated USPHRF organizations may not deny a national appeal by an owner when the local or regional appeal process is exhausted. To deny an appeal has several consequences for the affiliated fleet and its constituent sailors. These include

7. New Business

- a) Appointment of the USPHRF Nominating Subcommittee. Each year 6 of 12 committee positions are nominated for approval by the US SAILING Board of Directors. The nominees forwarded to the Board serve two year staggered terms. The Chair will appoint the subcommittee in summer of 2007 and schedule its report for the Fall 2007 Committee meeting. Committee recommendations will be forwarded to the Board consistent with US SAILING bylaws and regulations.
- b) Amendment to the USPHRF Appeal Procedures sponsored by Bob Porter of PHRF-LO who moved to amend Item 1. of the appeal procedure, “**The appellant is a member of United States Sailing Association**” by inserting the words “**or respective National Authority**” after the word “Association”. The amendment clarifies that USPHRF affiliated fleets from Canada and other nations may participate in the USPHRF appeal process. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
- c) A Spinoatm is a battened spinnaker designed for upwind and tight reaching during point-to-point and distance races. These sails appear to be special rule beating sails. There appears to be no body of research in the public domain to show how these sails affect the speed potential of boats that deploy them. USPHRF does not yet have enough information to develop meaningful guidance for offwind adjustments for those local and regional PHRF organizations that supply offwind handicaps. The following motion was offered with a second and was unanimously passed and adopted. **Motion:** *USPHRF strongly recommends to local and regional PHRF organizations using a single number handicap to not handicap boats that purchase and intend to fly a Spinoatm or similarly constructed sail.*
- d) No Resolutions to NOC or Action Items to the US Sailing House of Delegates and/or the Board of Directors were offered.

8. Call to Adjourn at 1430