

US SAILING Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, June 16, 2008

Present: Dick Allsopp, Dean Brenner, President Jim Capron, Susan Epstein, Amy Gross-Kehoe, Vice President Tom Hubbell, Gary Jobson, Chip Johns, Leslie Keller, Patty Lawrence, Jerry Montgomery, Bill Stump, Jim Tichenor, and non-voting Ex Officio members, Secretary Fred Hagedorn and Executive Director Charlie Leighton.

Guests: Matt Knowles and Dick Rose

1. The meeting was called to order by President Capron at 8:03 pm EDT.
2. Secretary Hagedorn called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.
3. A **MOTION** to approve the Consent Calendar was made, seconded and approved.
  - Minutes of the May 19, 2008 meeting of the Board of Directors as corrected.
4. President Capron noted that much of his time has been spent listening, educating and discussing the Draft Prescription to RRS 46 regarding mandatory membership with associations, clubs and individual members of the association. President Capron shared that he had sensed a positive shift in the “tone” of the discussions since the posting of the President’s Q and A on the website.
5. Executive Director Leighton reported that the association is in generally good shape. We are totally out of our external borrowing. Leighton was pleased to be able to announce that US SAILING will be entering an Onion Patch Offshore Team for the first time in many years. The Annual Report to the Members was mailed to the Board this past week and will be arriving on our doorsteps shortly; we have come a long way in three years and have much to celebrate. As reported last month, the Association should be entirely transferred onto the new database by the fall of 2008; to this end, METLife will be sending 3 database experts (pro bono) to us on June 24 to perform an audit of our new database and progress toward completion, as this project is the single most mission-critical improvement for our members and our association. Finally, we need to change the negativity that our membership is feeling at this time regarding the draft prescription to RRS 46 and mandatory membership, and develop a positive environment and tone.
6. Treasurer Keller agreed that we remain in a good place financially. Keller also noted that the annual audit is progressing.
7. Olympic Report. Executive Director Leighton shared that US SAILING’s expenses associated with the Article 15 hearings and arbitration regarding the Women’s Windsurfing athlete selection is projected to be \$120,000.
8. The standard prescriptions to the RRS were presented by the RRS Board and Rules Committee joint-working party. (see attachment 1)
  - A **MOTION** to approve these prescriptions was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

9. The proposed prescription to RRS 46 was presented for discussion by President Capron. Each member (voting and non-voting) of the Board was asked to give his or her views and then indicate their support for the proposed prescription. Then the two guests from the Racing Rules committee were given the same opportunity. In general, the members of the board all agreed that every sailor should be a member of US SAILING, but that making a formal requirement of membership is not in the best interest of the association at this time. The need to develop creative partnerships with RSA's, Class Associations and Fleets, Yacht Clubs and Sailing Centers was emphasized and encouraged in order to grow membership in all of our sailing organizations.
  - A **MOTION** to withdraw the proposed prescription to RRS 46 for the 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.
10. Old Business. Susan Epstein reviewed the written report of the Windsurfing Task Force and expressed the Task Force's appreciation for the recent grants from the US Sailing Foundation in support of a Junior Clinic and in support of a multi-media tool to assist in growing interest in windsurfing of Junior Sailors.
11. New Business.

The need for a "group e-mail" button on the Board of Directors' web-pages was discussed and roundly supported. Secretary Hagedorn will discuss this with the technologists at US SAILING to see how this might be implemented as a way to make it easier for members to send ideas and comments to the board as a whole.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick H. Hagedorn  
Secretary

ATTACHMENT #1

**2009-2012 US SAILING PRESCRIPTIONS**

**UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED BY THE SIX MEMBERS OF THE  
BOARD/RRC REVIEW GROUP**

**Changes from the 2005-2008 prescriptions are shown in blue.  
Comments from Board/RRC Prescription Review Group are  
shown in red.**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS** Add in the list of appendices

*BB Experimental Kiteboard Racing Rules*

*S Sound-Signal Starting System*

**INTRODUCTION** Add as a new last paragraph in the Introduction:

*Prescriptions US SAILING prescriptions are printed in bold italics, except Appendices BB, F and S. Those three appendices are US SAILING prescriptions. There is no Appendix Q or R.*

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

**Comment on Location:** The RRC proposes moving Equal Opportunity from its current location on page 3 to a prominent spot in the middle of page 2. Reason: It does not seem to fit in its current location because it is under the heading 'Fundamental Principle' and covers a topic unrelated to that principle.

***Equal Opportunity***

*As the national authority for the sport of sailing, US SAILING is committed to providing an equal opportunity to all sailors to participate in the sport of sailing.*

**Rule 34** Change rule 34 title to: **MARK MISSING; RACE COMMITTEE ABSENT**

After rule 34 add

*US SAILING prescribes that, if a finishing mark is missing but another one remains in place, a boat shall finish as close to the remaining mark as practicable on a line extending from its required side at a 90° angle to the last leg. If a boat finishes when the race committee is absent, to be scored as finishing she shall note her finishing time and her finishing position in relation to any nearby boats and report them to the race committee as soon as reasonably possible.*

**Rule 40** Change rule 40 title to: **PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES; LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT**

After rule 40 add

*US SAILING prescribes that every boat shall carry life-saving equipment conforming to government regulations that apply in the racing area. See [www.ussailing.org/rules/pfd](http://www.ussailing.org/rules/pfd) for more information.*

Comment: The title of ISAF's Rule 40 will change to **PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES**, rule 40.2 will be deleted, and current rule 40.1 will be renumbered '40'.

**Rule 48** After rule 48 add

*US SAILING prescribes that the use of additional **special-purpose** lights such as masthead, spreader and jib-luff lights shall not constitute a breach of this rule.*

**Rule 55** Add rule 55

55 **FLAGS**

*US SAILING prescribes that a boat shall not display flags except for signaling. A boat shall not be penalized for breaking this rule without prior warning and opportunity to make correction.*

**Rule 61.4** Add rule 61.4

61.4 **Fees for Protests and Requests for Redress**

*US SAILING prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.*

**Rule 64.3 (b)** After rule 64.3(b) add

*US SAILING prescribes that the authority responsible for interpreting the rules of a handicap or rating system is the organization that issued the handicap or the rating certificate involved.*

**Rule 68** After rule 68 add

*US SAILING prescribes that:*

- (a) *A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.*
- (b) *A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US SAILING appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.*
- (c) *A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.*

Comment: The RRC plans, over the next couple of years, to consult with the Legal Committee to determine whether any revision in the prescription to rule 68 is warranted for the 2013 rulebook.

**Rule 75.3** Location changed, see rule 82 below.

**Rule 76.1** After rule 76.1 add

*US SAILING prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age.*

**Rule 76.3** Add rule 76.3

*76.3 US SAILING prescribes that a boat whose entry is rejected or cancelled or a competitor who is excluded from a race or series shall be, upon written request, entitled to a hearing conducted by the protest committee under rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6.*

**Rule 80, ADVERTISING** After rule 80 add the following new prescription:

*US SAILING prescribes that competitors whose principal residence is in the United States shall not display Category C advertising unless they hold a US SAILING Advertising License. Membership in US SAILING confers this license. See [www.ussailing.org/rules/advertising](http://www.ussailing.org/rules/advertising) for more information.*

**Rule 82** (location changed – was, in the 2005-2008 rules, rule 75.3) Add new title:

**82 INDEMNIFICATION OR HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS**

*US SAILING prescribes that the organizing authority shall not require a competitor to assume any liabilities of the organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official involved with the event. (This is commonly referred to as an ‘indemnification’ or ‘hold harmless’ agreement.) See [www.ussailing.org/rules/indemnification](http://www.ussailing.org/rules/indemnification) for more information.*

**Rule 86.3** After rule 86.3 add

*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.*

**Rule 88.2** After rule 88.2 add

*US SAILING prescribes that sailing instructions shall not change or delete rules 61.4 or 76.3, Appendix F, or its prescriptions to rules 40, 68 or 76.1. However, for an international event the prescription to rule 40 may be deleted.*

Comments: Rule 87 will become rule 88.2 in 2009. ISAF now requires its approval for a national authority’s prescription to rule 88.2. We will seek ISAF approval immediately after receiving Board approval for this prescription.

As required by new rule 88.2, the RRC will write ISAF on behalf of US SAILING and ask for its approval of the above prescription to rule 88.2.

**Appendix A** At the end add the following note:

*US SAILING Note on Scoring a Long Series: The scoring systems in Appendix A may be inappropriate for a long series, such as a club's season championship held over several weeks or months, in which some boats do not compete in all of the races and in which more boats compete in some races than in others. See 'Scoring a Long Series' at [www.ussailing.org/rules/longseries](http://www.ussailing.org/rules/longseries) for an explanation of the scoring problems that occur in such series, alternative scoring systems, and language for sailing instructions to implement them.*

**Appendix BB** Add the following new appendix.

## ***APPENDIX BB – Experimental Kiteboard Racing Rules***

*This appendix is a US SAILING prescription.*

A group of race officials and kiteboard racers is developing a set of racing rules to govern 'round the buoys' kiteboard races. These rules are evolving based on the experiences of competitors in kiteboard races and those who serve on the race committee or protest committee at such races. See [www.ussailing.org/rules/kiteboards](http://www.ussailing.org/rules/kiteboards) for more information, including the most recent version of these rules.

**Appendix E - Rule E4.6**

Change the title to rule E4.6 to:

**Person in Charge**

**Appendix F** Replace ISAF Appendix F with **Appendix F** [see Appendix F below]

**Appendix G** After rule G2 add

*US SAILING prescribes that unless otherwise stated in her class rules, the sails of a boat that is not in an ISAF International Class or Recognized Class shall comply with rule G1. However, offshore racing boats not in a class that is subject to rule G1 shall carry numbers allotted by US SAILING on mainsails, spinnakers and each overlapping headsail having a luff-perpendicular measurement exceeding 130% of the base of the foretriangle. This rule applies only to a boat whose owner's national authority is US SAILING. See [www.ussailing.org/offshore/SailNoSys.asp](http://www.ussailing.org/offshore/SailNoSys.asp) for the full text of the Sail Numbering System for offshore racing boats in the United States and for an application for a sail number.*

**Appendix L** At the end of the preamble to Appendix L add

*US SAILING Note: US SAILING has produced a guide to simplified sailing instructions suitable for events such as club or local regattas. This guide can be found at [www.ussailing.org/rules/simpleSIs](http://www.ussailing.org/rules/simpleSIs).*

**Appendix L** Add Instruction 12.3

*12.3 If the race committee intends to start another race on the same day, it will display the Second Substitute (with no sound) while boats are finishing.*

Marginal note to appear in the left margin opposite instruction 12.3:

*This is a US SAILING prescription.*

**Appendix L** Add a new Instruction 16.10

*16.10 If the race committee posts a list of boats scored OCS, ZFP or BFD on the official notice board before the protest time limit, a request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than one hour after the protest time limit. This changes the first sentence of rule 62.2.*

Marginal note to appear in the left margin opposite new instruction 16.10:

*This is a US SAILING prescription.*

**Appendix S** After Appendix P add **Appendix S** [see Appendix S below].

**Protest Form** Replace the ISAF Protest Form with the US SAILING Protest Form.

**INDEX** At end of introductory paragraph add

*US SAILING prescriptions are not included in the Index.*