

2012-2013 US Sailing Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2013

In attendance: Board: Josh Adams, JJ Fetter, Susan Epstein, Executive Director Jack Gierhart, President Tom Hubbell, Secretary Patty Lawrence, Maureen McKinnon, Ben Richardson, Dawn Riley, Treasurer Taran Teague, Jim Walsh. Area Directors and Guests Sarah Alger, Charlie Arms, Brian Hawboldt, Fred Hagedorn, Rich Jepsen, Jim Tichenor, Bill Stump, Bob Porter, Gary Bodie, Cory Sertl, Dave Perry, Rob Overton, Georgia McDonald, and Steve Wrigley

Regrets: Ed Adams, Vice President Bruce Burton, John Craig, and George Hinman.

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM EDT and the roll call established a quorum.
- 2. Announcements: Herreshoff Nominations deadline is July 29, 2013.
- 3. The consent calendar was moved, seconded, and approved.
 - June 17, 2013 Meeting Minutes
 - Updated committee list
- 4. Dave Perry, Stephen Wrigley, and Rob Overton were available for questions and comments about ISAF submissions and endorsements.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to support the following submissions:

- Clarification of the definition Clear Astern and Clear Ahead; Overlap
- To adopt a consistent style for the use of the acronym 'ISAF' in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*. (Rules Committee)
- Appeal 107 (Appeals Committee)
- Casebook Submission on Rule 55: biodegradable sail stops. (Appeals Committee)
- A change in the Advertising Code to grant competitors the exclusive right to display advertising at ISAF Events (Olympic Committee)

A motion was made, seconded and approved to endorse Bruce Martinson and Patty O'Donnell for international judges.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to endorse Mark Foster (upon completion of all requirements) and John Strassman as International Race Officers.

5. Membership 60K. Membership Director Georgia McDonald shared a power point entitled "The Pathway to 60K Members". The goal is a 50% increase in membership that involves both new members and member retention. We will target One Design Racing, PHRF/Big Boat Racing, College/Team Racing/Match Racing, Cruising/Recreational Sailors and Instructors. The plan includes messaging consistent communication that is intelligent and relevant and to stay within the existing budget parameters. The Membership Department is close to selecting a vendor with the ability to mine our database base and search by any criteria which will enable us to better target our message. The plan also includes coordination across departments.



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- 6. Tom Hubbell noted in his President's Report that he has enjoyed being US Sailing's ambassador and covering all four coasts including sailing forty-one days this year. There are many good people around the country who make sailing safe, fun and fair.
 - Everyone is reminded to invite new sailors to the AGM.
 - Jack Gierhart and Bobbi Warren are doing very well with the budget.
 - The Championship work group includes Board member Dave Ullman and Randy Draftz, Brad Read, Kate Keane, Karen Smith, and staff director Lee Parks.
 - Islands Race Independent Review Panel submitted a draft report which will be published after it has been presented to family members of the deceased and the sailors involved.
 - Dina Kowalyshyn is chairing the Measurement Task Force and will report back to the Board in September or October.
- 7. Executive Director, Jack Gierhart, thanked everyone for their efforts to connect with regional sailing associations and noted that he and Amy Larkin met with George Day and the Cruising Committee which is getting lift-off. CFO-Director of Finance, Bobbi Warren, is retiring in September but will help with the transition to a new director. She is incredible asset to US Sailing and we wish her well. The new audit firm is restating the membership revenue for 2011 and 2012 which will change the balance sheet.
- 8. Treasurer Taran Teague presented an Investment and Expenditure Policy which was adopted by the board. Taran and the Investment committee of George Hinman and Mason Christman, recommended that we move the Olympic monies into an all diversified growth fund from 1/3 conservative and 2/3 diversified growth fund. The current conservative strategy, in a period of low interest, looks like a bond fund. While the diversified fund is still relatively conservative, it will provide a better return on our investment.
- 9. Olympic Manager Josh Adams reported on four things:
 - The Youth Worlds wrapped up in Cyprus with five US sailors in top ten but none on podium.
 - Charlie McKee and Meredith Muller are spending five days in Rio de Janeiro doing a close evaluation of the training facilities and our USOC housing plan is coming together.
 - The Nacra 17 is in the 1st ever World Championship in the Netherlands. The World Championships are important for team selection and funding and they help focus the team on one primarily peak event per year.
 - The Olympic funds are tracking well against budget and the department is monitoring cash closely.
- 10. Division Reports: Hank Stuart submitted a written report from the Race Management Division and Jim Tichenor submitted a written report for the Venues Division. It was noted that the Regional Sailing Associations Committee and Area Coordinators Committee have two separate functions and that some geographic areas present a challenge. Bob Porter suggested the RSAC review geographic areas so that there is equitable and reasonable distribution among sailors.
- 11. Old Business:

Championship Working Groups is seeking input.

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Board members are reminded to follow up on the RSA Contact Project Report.

12. New Business

- There was a question our D & O insurance deductible that requires further investigation. Dawn Riley, Lee Parks and an appropriate lawyer will look into it.
- Jack presented three possible venues for the 2014 AGM: Dallas, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. After a discussion, a motion to go Milwaukee, WI was made, seconded and approved.
- There was a brief discussion about the mission of the Leadership Conference.
- The AGM meeting schedule will be posted soon so that attendees can plan their trip.

Organizational Reflections - Each board member was given an opportunity to comment on the work of US Sailing. Georgia's presentation on the Pathway to 60K drew praise from several directors.

Adjourn at 9:45 and the Board moved into executive session. Respectfully submitted, Patty Lawrence