



**2015-2016 US Sailing Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2015**  
**Teleconference 7:30pm EST**

In attendance: Board: Managing Olympic Director Josh Adams, Sally Barkow, Steve Benjamin, President Bruce Burton, JJ Fetter, Treas. Steve Freitas, Executive Director Jack Gierhart, Gary Gilbert, Ben Richardson, VP Cory Sertl, Jim Walsh, Ron White, Sec. Martine Zurinkas, Rich Jepsen, Shelia McCurdy

Regrets: George Hinman

Guests: Nathan Titcomb, Chuck Hawley, Charlie Arms, Brian Hawboldt, 13 other guests unknown

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1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm EST and a roll call established a quorum.
  2. *Motion #1 to approve the Consent Calendar : Motion approved*
    - a. *Approve October 22, 2015 BoD (old)*
    - b. *Approve October 22, 2015 AGM*
    - c. *Approve October 22, 2015 BoD (new) with minor correction that Steve Benjamin was not on the conference call, move name under regrets.*
  3. **Presidents Report, Bruce Burton**

Bruce summarized the Presidents report. Safety, ISAF meeting in China, Proud of US leadership in the safety area by Chuck Hawley and Stan Honey, Concerns: Sailing in Olympics keeping abreast, ISAF delegates – supply names; National Conference/Leadership Forum – please register. US Offshore – Jack/Bruce will be working with leadership of ORA. Office Relocation in progress updates in 2016.
  4. **ISAF Verbal Report, Cory Sertl**
    - Delegation includes 16 delegates who are “officially” supported by US Sailing- i.e. expenses paid. We welcome at our 7:45am breakfast meetings all Americans who attend the conference: ORC delegates, class representatives, event organizers, spouses, etc. Gary Jobson in his role as VP is not part of our delegation but he comes as often as possible and shares information with us and asks where he can help.
    - Betsy- Presidents Development award for Disabled Sailing Leadership- now re-named Para World Sailing
    - Dick Rose- Rules- our longest attending delegate (took over from Harman Hawkins...)
    - Jack and Bruce attended.
    - Robin Wallace mentioned Medical Commission compliments on Josh Adam’s efforts re: Rio water quality
    - US Sailing delegates- respected and looked to for leadership, Betsy, Stan, Gary, Liz-match racing (we speak clearly, slowly offer sensible solutions and we are understood)
    - Council- most issues that come through via submissions are settled with all committees aligned in a common recommendation- a few left for Council to debate- i.e. Appendix X- re: arbitration- racing rules wanted to keep on website, we asked for debate on the submission (US Sailing submission) and Council supported the US position to place this Appendix in the rule book.
    - Friday- Breakfast of the America’s- hosted by Scott Perry and Pablo Masseroni (URU and ARG)- discussed the Continental Association Working Party recommendations led by Peter Hall (CAN)- how North/South America fit in as well as the Mexico request to be part of North America (this was defeated at Council after the appeal made by all members of Council from North and South America)
    - Comments re: Canada- request to change subscription category from 5-4 (initially made to save money) on the Council agenda was rescinded after their delegates pointed out the symbolism of this move and potential future consequences. Canada’s struggles re: their Olympic program and costs for their delegates to attend meetings were brought up by Peter Hall.
    - Events Committee- Cory and Gary- comments re: Sailing World Cup, future Continental Qualification 2020 Olympics
    - Key Issues decided at Council/Events- detail in Cory/Gary Bodie’s report
    - Governance- see Peter Hall paper re: Continental Associations Working Party re: structure of CAs, Training and Development-regional focus, Communication, events- long term calendar, promotion of ISAF’s theme: “World Sailing”
    - New Rule Book takes effect 1-1-17, Match Racing rules- significant changes (see Liz’s report), Rule 69 (see Dick’s report)
    - CEO- Peter Sowrey



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- Future meetings- Next year is election year- not confirmed if Carlo will run again. November 5-16, 2016 not Abu Dhabi- “somewhere in Europe”, May meeting of Events, Equipment, Executive will be in Italy (no date announced)
- Future delegation- nominations due mid-summer 2016

5. Executive Directors Report, Jack Gierhart

Jack summarized his ED report. Objectives highlighted; Fundraising important time and relaunch of foundation; Busy time with many activities planned in January/February; Rolex Nominations due; detailed report included highlights from each department. Spread the word on the National Conference / Leadership Forum registration asap.

6. Treasurers Report, Steve Freitas

Steve summarized meeting in Newport. Leveraging relationships to hit targets goals. Budget process is beginning. Cost structure of the ORA and Offshore Division ability to build foundation of pricing structure, in progress. Cash flow documents, investment documents have been reviewed. Treasurers report will be provided for December meeting. Pricing structure for ORC/RORC and Offshore Committee discussed, Chuck to get with Steve F. to discuss.

7. Olympic Report, Josh Adams

Josh presented the prepared Olympic report. Sailing World Cup event in Miami – 1000+ people expected, NMA is helping organize. National Team Tour - presentations – selection and success important. Rethinking strategy to ensure success for all. Rio Water – follow up with Athlete & Medical team survey – interesting data and will assist with decision making. Plan will be executed at the next events. Development Director update – fundraising vehicles – UP TO US Campaign – 1<sup>st</sup> stage of medalist program. Final drive to meet fundraising goals. Launch of Fundraising with crowdfunding & team focus in January tie into Sailing World Cup. Final training will be conducted Thanksgiving weekend in Miami, FL.

8. Staff Connection and Division Discussion

Education – Charlie Arms, Rich Jepsen

- a. Summarize report provided by all committees – Commercial Sailing Committee; Instructors & Coaches; Sports Medicine; Sportsmanship; Training; 2 National Faculty meetings this quarter; Boat show attendance was positive Eyeballs & connections with US Sailing the brand; low cost entry point with partnerships with shows/clubs present.; Online Education improvements a priority; Technology improvements – online waitlist, online card; first Performance Sailing Instructor Course; NSPS Austin, TX 2017
- b. **Motion #2 to approve** - *Training proposes the development of a dba to administer the National On Water Standard into the future. Cost to set up will be trivial, less than 10 hours of Training Staff time and less than \$500 in fees/expenses. Details of the proposal's purpose, need and background are contained in the white paper submitted under separate cover. Presented by Rich Jepsen Motion by Ron White, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Freitas **Withdrawn motion** by Ron White. Working group formed by Steve Freitas & Steve Benjamin lead by Rich Jepsen to reconsider & revise.*

Offshore - Dan Nowlan / George Hinman (Chuck Hawley presenting)

Report presented for George regarding EPHRF – Enhanced PHRF – summary documentation provided. The goal would be to have the national authority create the NRR's supported with science both the perception and reality of fairness will be enhanced. Offshore certification pricing relates to the data required. Moving toward common pricing, for common boats, etc. Goal is to be the honest broker. Jay Hansen came on the call to confirm progress. Steve Freitas confirmed ongoing discussion on the pricing, variables and will be present the basis of the pricing. Discussion will continue with Steve, Jack and others on Tuesday Nov 24<sup>th</sup>. EPHRF – Jay presented 2 documents to discuss with the board. George Hinman was unable to attend call.

- a. Safety at Sea receive additional donations to support the online units - 5 Online units available by end of this year. Online video is moving forward and forward process. Chuck Hawley presented in George's absence.
- b. Offshore Safety Equipment Requirements, update every 2 years to the OSR update. US Offshore Committee recommends Safety Equipment Requirements for 2016-2017.
- c. **Motion #3 to approve** - *Safety Equipment Requirements for 2016-2017 Recommended Changes - The US Offshore Committee; recommend that you approve of the changes in Safety Equipment Requirements presented by the Safety at Sea Committee. George Hinman Chairman USO **Motion Passes***



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- d. **Motion #4 to Approve** – Updates from the July minutes: The newly formed US Offshore Committee will be chaired by George Hinman. Chuck Hawley, Stan Honey, Brian Geraghty, Betty Sue Sherman has agreed to serve on the committee and the Nominating Committee is in the process of confirming two more members. Additional person to confirm: Richard du Moulin Motion, to approve the Richard du Moulin as a US Offshore Committee member.  
**Motion Passes**

9. One Design Representative – looking for a Chair. BoD submit names to Bruce/Jack.

10. Old Business

**Motion #5 to approve**, Larry Ledgerwood as the Training committee chair Motion Passes

Committee member roster finalized for approval - look for communication on that Dec. 17 meeting; MRZ to communicate directly with BoD liaisons & Chairs to get updated list.

11. New Business

2016 Budget - Jack presented status update and timeline.

- a. 12/7 – final draft to budget committee
- b. 12/10 or 12/11 - call with budget committee
- c. 12/11 – final draft to Board
- d. 12/17 – board call – budget discussion and vote

**Motion #6 to approve** the Board liaisons, as presented in Bruce’s report - Motion Passes

Division	Chairman	Board Liaison
US Offshore	George Hinman	Steve Benjamin
Inshore Small Boat	Brian Hawboldt	Sally Barkow
Championships	Shannon Bush	Jim Walsh
Race Administration	Hank Stuart	Ron White
Education	Charlie Arms	Rich Jepsen
Olympics Committee	Ben Richardson	JJ Fetter
Sailing Venues	TBD	TBD

Calendar for 2016 with updated ISAF dates; Dec BoD meeting will have final schedule.

- a. May TBD - ISAF Mid-Year Meetings – Milan, Italy
- b. November 5-13 Europe TBD - ISAF Annual Conference

**Motion #7 to approve** the nominations by Clark Chapin, I would like to nominate the following people as members of the 2016 US Sailing Bylaws Committee: Art Engel, Attorney Los Angeles, CA; Andrew Cole Attorney Annapolis, MD; Stephen Ouellette Attorney Rockport, MA Motion passes

12. End of call sizzle: Board shared there reflections of sailing and US Sailing.

**13. Reminders – Next meeting is December 17<sup>th</sup>, Reports are due by end of Day Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>. Please respect your fellow board members with time to pre-read to facilitate the call.**

**Motion #8** The meeting adjourned at 10:20 EST

Respectfully submitted, Martine R. Zurinkas, Secretary