

**Small Boat Division
US Sailing BOD Report
Dec 2015
Full Committee Reports**

One-Design Committee – vacant

- No Committee report submitted
- Bruce will meet with class leaders at the Forum with the intent to identify new one-design class committee members. New Chair is also needed. Division Chair is available to participate in both if desired.
- The Race Admin Division is forming a Measurement Committee and working with the Measurement Task Force to set up training seminars and a certification system for one-design class measurers. We will collaborate with current US one-design measurers so as to not impede on their authority.

Cruising Committee – George Day

The Cruising Committee has not met since our last report. We look forward to getting together in San Diego at the Sailing Leadership Forum. Agenda items include:

- Building the cruising presence on the website
- Aiding in any boat show activity and safety seminars associated with shows
- Working with the team on the Grow Sailing Initiative
- Building a closer relationship between U.S.Sailing and the Salty Dawg Rally

Kiteboarding – Robbie Dean

Quarter 4 highlights:

- St Pete Fall Foil Regatta had 32 competitors in attendance. These numbers rival the best weekend event attendance in the USA for our sport. The regatta was organized by Eckerd College Head Coach (and hydrofoiler) Zack Marks. Hydrofoil Kiteboarding activity is building in the southeast.
- The North American Speed Sailing Championship was hosted by The Black Dog and Lynch Associates in Martha's Vineyard at the end of October. Twelve sailors in attendance with large contingents from France and USA.

2015 Highlights

- Sixteen Hydrofoiling Kiteboarders representing the USA attended international events overseas in 2015
- Thirteen Hydrofoiling Kiteboard weekend events were hosted in the USA in 2015. San Francisco, St Pete, San Diego, Shelter Island NY, Martha's Vineyard, Corpus Cristi, among the organizers. One of the events hosted in San Francisco was an international event with sixteen countries represented. Bi-weekly series events are being hosted in San Francisco.
- Erika Heineken was crowned 2015 International Tour Champion in ladies division
- There are 8 very strong US Junior Sailors competing in the Hydrofoil Kiteboard fleet at the international level. Junior training programs are strong in Jupiter FL, and San Francisco CA.

2016 planning

- American Tour being organized with 4-5 stops. \$5,000 prize money at each event and a \$20,000 prize purse for the tour championship.
- International events being planned in San Diego and San Francisco in 2016.

Match Racing – Dave Perry

We held our annual meeting Monday, November 23, which included reports from the various sub-groups and working parties and a lively discussion of issues and tasks for 2016.

Highlights in 2015:

* created database of over 4000 names of people interested in match racing

- * launched our e-newsletter *The Dial Up*, and sent 7 editions to the database
- * 40 collegiate teams participated in regional qualifiers for the Collegiate Match Racing National Championship
- * The Rose Cup became the US Sailing Youth Match Racing Championship
- * opened up the regional qualifier system for the U.S. Match Racing Championship (USMRC) such that sailors could apply to any of the qualifiers; had over 50 separate teams participate in regional qualifiers
- * had at least 50% different skippers from the 2014 USMRC
- * had seven teams at the US Women's Match Racing Championship
- * there were 62 graded match racing events run in the U.S.

Looking ahead:

- * The 2016 Qualifier schedule for the USMRC and USWMRC is in place, with 7 events already scheduled around the country
- * Sail Sheboygan will host the 2016 ISAF Women's Match Racing World Championship and the ISAF Blind Match Racing World Championship
- * The Balboa Yacht Club has put in a bid to host the 2017 ISAF Youth Match Racing World Championship

Multihull Committee – Mike Levesque

Looking Back: As we near the end of 2015, here are some notable accomplishments of US multihull sailors:

In September, twelve US sailors competed in Italy at the A Class Catamaran Worlds. The 157-boat fleet was split into Gold and Silver divisions, with Bruce Mahoney posting the top US finish (9th in Gold Fleet).

Two events that we missed on the prior report:

- The 2015 US Youth Multihull Championship for the Arthur D. Stevens Trophy was held in July at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI. Mark and Anderson Brunsvold won this event, held on Formula 16s (5 boats).
- Also in July, at Put-in-Bay, OH, the Hobie Wave North Americans featured two fleets racing together. The IHCA Waves were won by Doug Seib (9 boats), and the HCA Waves were won by Jim Glanden (7 boats).

Three major events were held in Florida in the fall:

- In September, 73 Hobie 16s raced at the North Americans in Pensacola. Mark and Grace Modderman were the top finishing US team (third overall) in the 37-boat Gold Fleet, while Adam Atherton and Diane Bisesi won the 36-boat Silver Fleet.
- In October, Sarah Newberry and Matthew Whitehead dominated the 28-boat Formula 18 Americas in Charlotte Harbor.
- And in late October, Mark and Anderson Brunsvold continued their success in Formula 16s, winning the 21-boat F16 Nationals in Sarasota.

Looking Forward: The fall is also a very important season for off-water activities, with US Sailing committees and many of our member classes holding annual meetings and planning future events. Here are some planned events for 2016:

- Feb 9-14: Nacra 17 Worlds, Clearwater FL
- May/Jun: Hobie 16 Worlds, Dapeng Longgang, China (to feature 60 new, provided boats)
- Aug 5-8: US Youth Multihull Championship for the Arthur D. Stevens Trophy, F16s, Coronado, CA (Watch for Early Acceptance Events and Selection Deadlines!)
- Aug 22-26: US Multihull Championship for the Hobie Alter Trophy, Hobie 18s, Carlyle, IL
- Aug 22-26: Hobie 17 North Americans, Carlyle, IL
- Oct 10-14: Hobie 16 & Hobie 18 North Americans, Puerto Penasco, Mexico
- Oct/Nov: Formula 18 Worlds, Argentina (US class organizing a container)

There are a large number of significant beach cat distance races in the works, many exceeding 100 miles. The two longest currently planned are:

- May 17-21: Florida 300 (Florida East Coast)

- June 15-18: Great Texas 300 (Texas Gulf Coast)

US Sailing is actively seeking hosts clubs for the Try it Out clinics. One goal of these programs is to identify future Olympic prospects. This is great exposure for our classes! Contact Mark Schneider for more information.

The Multihull Racing Committee is reviewing handicap systems and safety programs, and we expect to publish some recommendations for each in time for the 2016 summer racing season. New volunteers are always appreciated!

Windsurfing Committee – Jerome Samson

1) Grassroots windsurfing events were front and center in the fourth quarter this year, with the East Coast Windsurfing Festival on Cape Cod (MA) and the Sandy Hook Fun Fest (NJ) attracting 50+ competitors each for some racing and freestyle action in the Northeast. These events have found the right mix of fun and adrenaline to attract regular racers as well as newcomers to the sport by including introduction clinics. Bonaire's Kiri Thode (who has been ranked in the top-3 in the world in the freestyle discipline for nearly 10 years now) was in attendance on Cape Cod to showcase his skills and he gave locals enough stoke to last them 'til next year's event!

2) Grassroots is the name of the game for a new North American windsurfing magazine: the first two issues of Windsurfing Now (<http://www.windsurfingnowmag.com/>) are now out, to great acclaim. The windsurfing community in the US has been without a paper publication for some time, and the birth of a new magazine in today's digital age is a good sign that the industry is planting new roots. We've been working hand in hand with the publishers to coordinate marketing and develop outreach programs, and will definitely continue to build on that dynamic in 2016.

3) Of course, this is also a pre-Olympic year, which means high stakes on the World Sailing stage. We had 5 US representatives (3 men and 2 women) compete at the 2015 RS:X Worlds in Oman in October. While we failed to secure a country spot at that event for the Rio Games, we'll get another chance in Miami in January. A total of 13 US athletes (9 men and 4 women) will take part in that competition, twice as many as we had in the ramp up to the London Games! This is a reflection of a more accessible US qualification system this time around, but also a sign of a healthy growth in interest in the Olympic track in the US, with competitors ranging in age from 16 to 53!

4) We secured the rights to host the Kona World Championships in 2016 (Oct/Nov). Kona is the fastest-growing racing class in windsurfing in our country, mostly because it's a simple, versatile longboard suitable for racing in any wind from 4 to 30 knots, and because the manufacturer has the foresight (and means) to charter boards at many events around the country. The work we do with the Kona Class throughout the year is an important piece of our outreach and development programs.

5) We had 6 kids represent the US at the Techno Worlds in Cagliari in October (300+ competitors). The Miami Yacht Club continues to be our powerhouse for techno talent, and 14-yr old Dominique Stater impressed everyone by finishing top-10 in the strong U15 class. Two of the Miami kids are currently competing for podium positions at the 2015 South Americans in Paracas, Peru.

6) The 2015 Luderitz Speed Challenge in Namibia wrapped up with a world speed record for both men and women windsurfers this year, and we had a US speedster (Boris Vujasinovic) reach 48.99 kts in the channel there. This has reignited interest in the speed discipline in the US, and a few events are in the planning stages for 2016.

7) Last but not least, the 2015 season on the American Windsurfing Tour (our wave tour in the US) concluded with great conditions and participation in Maui last month. This tour is a great showcase for our wave riding talent at the top and for some of the most spectacular coastal destinations in the country - the stuff of magazine covers. But with more than half of its riders being amateurs, it's also playing an important role in demystifying the wave riding discipline.

Happy holidays to all of you - congratulations for all your accomplishments this past year, and here's to an even better 2016!

Sailors with Disabilities Committee – Sarah Everhart-Skeels

- No Committee report submitted

Team Racing Committee – Chair Vacant

- No Chair in this Committee for at least the last 4 years. Suggest this Committee be dissolved
- Focus on team racing is in youth, high school and college. Out of scope for this Division.