

# Draft Meeting Summary – Junior Women’s Championship Committee, February 3, 2014

**Attendees by teleconference:** Ellen Donnelly, Susan Dennis, Allie Blecher, Amanda Callahan, Genoa Fedyszyn, Richard Feeny, Alana O’Reilly, Mary Pierce, Liz Walker

**Copies:** Frank Ustach, Malinda Crain, Shannon Bush

**Notes by:** Ellen Donnelly, Susan Dennis

1. Introductions
2. Committee roles and structure

Susan and Ellen are co-chairs; Ellen is focused on organization of the Doublehanded event, and Susan on the Singlehanded event.

Committee business to be conducted by conference call and email. The Committee is tasked with conducting the Junior Women’s Championship events through host clubs and exploring and implementing any changes to improve and sustain the events and their mission.

3. Status report on 2014 events planning:

Liz announced that the top two boats placing in the JWD and JWS will qualify for the 2015 Youth Champs which will be the ISAF Youth Qualifier; JWD teams can chose which doublehanded boat they wish to complete in.

- a. JWD: host is American Yacht Club, June 15-20: Event Chair is Carolyn Russell; PRO is Cynthia Parthemos; Chief Judge is Carol Barrow. AYC is very organized and planning is on track. The NOR is complete (pending item 4 below) and will be posted around Feb 10.

The only issue has been the event date as school will still be in session in NY, CA and other states. It also conflicts with the Brooke Gonzales clinic. Liz explained the complexity of scheduling and unfortunately the regatta could not be moved to a later date. US Sailing has prepared a statement that was distributed to Committee members to respond to scheduling inquiries.

Genoa is familiar with school calendars (from her USODA role) and can help confirm suitable dates in the future as needed.

- b. JWS: host is Mission Bay Yacht Club, July 15-20: Event Chair is Chris Wright; PRO is Sandy Grosvenor; Chief Judge is Mary Pierce. MBYC routinely works with other clubs in the area for housing and resources; planning is on track. Chris has the draft NOR; Liz will review with him when in San Diego this week for the USS Leadership Conference.

Chris has organized charter boats through private individuals and a new charter company, Vela LA, has also offered charters. Liz will meet with Michael Bradley of Vela and Chris Wright to confirm charter options when in San Diego for the Leadership Forum.

Allie offered to connect the MBYC with LA-area Laser fleet for additional charter options if needed.

- c. Coaching update – Richard Feeny: Last year Richard challenged folks to offer names of ‘dream team’ coaches; he then contacted them and ended up with a group of amazing coaches. He asked Committee members to get him names of coaches to consider for 2014 events.
4. 420 and Laser Class request to require class membership: Liz was approached by the 420 and Laser class organizations who requested that respective class membership be required for the 2014 JWD and JWS. The rationale to require class membership is to encourage greater involvement by the sailors, provide education about the boat, etc. In turn the classes will require US Sailing membership at their major events (Nationals, Midwinters).

Discussion: Cost impact to sailors is expected to be \$25 (420) and \$35 (Laser); this cannot be covered by Sailingships (travel expenses only). The majority of the sailors are already class members. Given our events are championships there is some expectation that participants are active class members.

**Motion and Second:** Require all skippers to be members of their respective class organizations as a condition of participating in the Junior Women’s Championship events. (420 crew membership would not be a requirement.) Motion passed unanimously.

5. Area rotation for future events: The area rotation through 2019 for all US Sailing championships is posted at [http://championships.ussailing.org/Five\\_Year\\_Championship\\_Calendar.htm](http://championships.ussailing.org/Five_Year_Championship_Calendar.htm). The rotation has been coordinated with class events to facilitate the availability of charters and travel to other class events in the same area.

Our goal is to have the next year’s host committed more than a year in advance so the regatta chair can attend the preceding year’s event to observe and learn from the actual event.

6. Bid for 2015 JWD – Oklahoma City Boat Club (Ellen sent bid to committee members separately by email)

OCBC hosted JWD in 2004; Richard attended as a coach and recalls it was well run and had good sailing conditions. The club is excited to host this event.

**Motion & Second:** Accept OCBC’s bid to host 2015 Junior Women’s Doublehanded. The Committee unanimously approved OCBC as 2015 JWD host.

7. Solicit hosts for 2015 JWS and 2016 JWS and JWD

All Committee members are urged to reach out to clubs in the designated areas to solicit bids for future events. An online bid process has been established. The dates designated for each event are included in the online bid site.

8. College recruiting – Amanda presented her request that college coaches be provided access to contact info for Championship competitors to enhance college sailing recruiting. Liz explained that USSailing policy prohibits release of any contact information for any competitor under age 18; USSailing policy is consistent with law and Safe Sport <http://safesport.org/take-the-training/>. Discussion of how to facilitate bringing coaches and sailors together will be ongoing.

9. Other topics. All are encouraged to offer suggestions for the JWC events for consideration by the Committee.