

US Sailing
US Team Racing Championship Committee
Agenda for Pre-AGM Call

A meeting of the US Team Racing Championship Committee was held via conference call on Monday night, September 23, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order and led by committee chair Edward Padin. The following committee members participated representing a quorum:

- Edward (Buttons) Padin, Chair
- Kerry Sullivan, Co-chair
- Glenn Oliver
- Liz Walker, Liaison
- Ted Ferrarone
- Ben Spiller
- Andrew Loe
- Bruce Cook

The topics discussed and decisions reached/indicated actions agreed-upon were as follows:

1. Update report from Jenn Lancaster on final plans for 2013 USTRC at Newport Harbor Yacht Club October 3 – 6.
 - The number of boats to sail during the Championship (18 or 24) was discussed as Jenn expressed concerns regarding the space available for the course—given local water traffic concerns. Andrew Loe indicated that sailing with 24 boats (eight teams on the water at all times) is always preferable from a competitor’s perspective, and all agreed. It was decided to start the regatta using a round robin based on 24 boats with a back-up of a 18 boat rotation that could be used for the second round robin if circumstances demand.
 - Plans for conducting the regatta are all in place from the Club’s logistics perspective.
 - Rotation options were discussed and NHYC will use their proprietary rotation generator and upload those rotations into Regatta Network for US Sailing online scoring.
 - Buttons reported that the SI document was almost complete and had sent to all committee members the current draft for their review and input.
2. Review of preliminary planning for 2014 USTRC to be hosted by Eastern Yacht Club, Marblehead, MA the weekend of Sept. 26 – 28.
 - Kerry Sullivan has been in contact with Event Chair Spencer Powers at EYC and is working on logistical details including boats to be used.
 - Date has been set
 - Weather good
 - Water not too cold
 - Good breeze
 - EYC will supply housing
 - Still planning on running the event in Vanguard-15s

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- Need to make sure we do due diligence from Race Management on proposed Greg Hill as Pro as he needs to become certified.
 - If they can't get the V-15s, their back-up would be Sonars (would need forward awareness) or local 420 fleets.
 - LP has reportedly been approached by EYC to possibly build a fleet of Vanguard-15s, and, if that does happen, LP would not be a designated sponsor due to US Sailing conflicts.
 - Buttons and Kerry will jointly approach EYC to get update on boat preferences indicating that shifting to keel boats is clearly less desirable.
3. Review of potential hosts for 2015, 2016, and 2017
- Rather than looking for venues, look for fleets of boats
 - Need to do this in other than FJs, 420s are better
 - Possible hosts: Southern YC (Flying Scotts) (Andrew will follow-up), Florida YC (Buttons), Annapolis YC (Joel LaB...Sailing Director – Buttons and Kerry will discuss while at NHYC), MIT (fireflies) (Kerry), Tuffs (Kerry), Stamford (Jenn Lancaster), NYYC, SCYC (Bruce), Sheboygan US Sailing Center (Liz Walker)
 - Overview of Host Club Responsibilities to be created by Buttons so host clubs are fully aware of what to expect
 - Highly preferred to have host club with a matched set of boats. – Bruce Cook suggestion
 - Liz Walker – if a host club wanted to purchase a fleet of boats for a championship, US Sailing would attempt to work out a special agreement to provide boats.
 - It was also suggested to canvas previous and current competitors' opinions on boats they would want to sail...and not.
4. Other long term strategic plans – the committee sets the direction
- Dinghy vs. keel/larger centerboard boats – There were mixed opinions here. Some indicated it would broaden the age group of the regatta, but doing so will also eliminate the primary US Sailing Championship for sailors of the post-college age group. Liz and Buttons agreed offline to table this discussion in favor of retaining the age appropriateness of the current regatta format. This direction will be discussed with the committee members present at the 2013 Championship.
 - Number of teams to include – it was agreed to continue to have a 12-boat championship – better rather than bigger.
5. New Business – Liz asked all members to consider marketing strategies for promoting all Championships a la the US Olympic Team.

Respectively submitted,

