

Date: September 12, 2018
To: USS Board members
From: Bruce Burton, President
Subject: September 2018 President's Report

Dear USS Board members,

This is my penultimate report to you as president of US Sailing and I look forward to seeing all of you next month in San Francisco, where we will transition to our new board and officers. It has been an honor to serve all of the sailors in the United States, support our efforts and delegates to World Sailing, guide our staff in Portsmouth, now in Bristol, and work with the very talented and dedicated Board members, volunteers, staff, clubs, donors, and vendors for the past 7 years.

Over the Transom

US Sailing Foundation

For the past three months I spoke of our need for nominations for directors and trustees for the Foundation. This is **my third round of reminders** to you to please contact Georgia McDonald, Jack Gierhart or me if you have a nomination for director or trustee. Thank you!

World Sailing

Cory Sertl, Jack Gierhart and I have spent considerable amount of time reacting to all of the leadership/governance challenges at World Sailing that we have all been reading about in the press, much of which is true. Detailed reporting on our efforts at WS will be left to Cory and Jack.

For my report, I share with you that we are providing support and guidance to the leadership at WS with our recommendations and that we are engaged in helping resolve the issues. As you are well aware, US Sailing has made a considerable financial and labor (volunteer and staff manpower) investment in the past decade and we do not want to see this investment lost because of poor decisions being made at WS, which impacts sailors and US Sailing.

US Offshore

Ron White and I have spent a considerable amount of time the past few weeks working with rule owners on lessons learned from this summer's sailing season, discussing what is working well and what is not in the measured/handicap racing business. We will provide more information to the Board separately on this subject.

Olympic Sailing Committee (OSC)

Staffing

We have been very active in the OSC since our last report in July. Two major regattas (Aarhus in August and Enoshima as we write). Malcolm Page will provide reports on our progress with the team. These are important things for you to know from my perspective:

OSC member changes:

- Cory Sertl will leave as Vice Chair when she becomes President of US sailing next month. A new Vice Chair will be named shortly thereafter.
- John Shadden (1988 Olympic Bronze medalist) has joined the OSC as the LA28 representative. This will help us coordinate efforts between USS, USST and Long Beach. John

is a very talented businessman and well respected leader in the Long Beach area. He is a fantastic addition to our group.

- Greg Fisher was hired as our Chief Operating Officer to work alongside Malcolm Page. Greg is one of the most talented one design sailors in the US (21 national and North American titles in 7 classes) and left national champion College of Charleston as Sailing Director to join the US Sailing Team.

Greg will be responsible for the business operations (finance, operations, contribute to the strategic planning, etc. with Jack and Malcolm) and the Olympic Development Program (ODP). This structure allows Malcolm to spend more time with the athletes and coaches, working to his champion sailing strengths, allowing Mal time to maximize our chances for 2020. Jack, Malcolm and Greg are the foundation of our professional staff who will build our plans and team from this point forward. Please welcome Greg to US Sailing! Greg may be reached at: gregfisher@ussailing.org

- Ding Schoonmaker and I had lunch in Watch Hill, RI where I briefed him on our progress and heard his comments on the team and the sailing center in Miami. Ding must be our most dedicated, loyal and longest serving supporter, dating back to the 70's.
- Meredith Brody has been promoted to Director from Manager. Congratulations to Meredith!

Fundraising

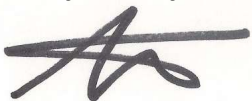
- A big shout out to Board member Russ Lucas for his hard work on behalf of the team in raising money for the team with the E Scow class.
- The USST hosted thank you "appetizers and beer" at the Etchells North Americans 9/13 after the first day of racing. OSC members Sally Barkow and Steve Benjamin were there.
- The OSC will be represented with a gold level table at the Golden Spinnaker team fundraiser on 9/28 at NYYC Harbour Court. We are very grateful to the Sailing Foundation of New York for helping the team.
- We are developing our plans for Tokyo 2020, having finished our Aarhus One Design campaign successfully. We will provide an update in our next OSC report.

Over the Bow

Things that I will focus on this month:

1. Transition of leadership to Cory Sertl between now and San Francisco.
2. Ramping up to full time leadership of the OSC.

Thank you for your continued support,



Bruce J. Burton,
President