



December 2, 2018

Board Update from President

Dear Board Members,

In preparation for our upcoming Board meeting on Monday evening I am providing this update of my activities since my last update by e-mail on November 6th.

National Sailing Hall of Fame induction ceremony- November

Lauderdale Yacht Club was a tremendous host for a weekend of activities for the NSHOF induction. I was invited to say a few words at Saturday night's dinner and at the beginning of the ceremony. My remarks focused mostly on Ding Schoonmaker and his vision for and continual support of the US Sailing Center Miami and the US Sailing Team. Gary Jobson, true to form did a wonderful job of introducing each inductee.

Coaching Roundtable-Miami- November 26. This was the third year of hosting this event immediately after the Thanksgiving weekend ODP Racing clinic. This is an invitation only event bringing together Olympic coaches, college colleges and youth program coaches together with our youth department to discuss the development of coaching education and how these parts of our sport can work better together.

Coaching Symposium- Miami, November 27/28, - our team led by John Pearce, Stu Gilfillen, Katie Ouellette put together a terrific 2 days of content that facilitated over one hundred attendees (mostly coaches) to learn and share ideas.

Tuesday November 27- a group of us, including several Olympic Sailing Committee members and Board members, hosted a "**Friendraising**" dinner in Coconut Grove. The dinner was organized by Sandrine Quenee (who is Miami based and is working for the US Sailing Foundation alongside Georgia). I introduced our team of Malcolm, Greg, Meredith and Leandro and Malcolm followed with a message to support our team and then highlighted by a speech by Leandro Spina describing his leadership of the Olympic Development Program over the past 4 years and showing off the Nation's Trophy won by our Youth Worlds Team in Corpus Christi which he had brought to the dinner with USA freshly engraved (see photo). We are working on expanding our "Olympic" message to include the full continuum of sailing and that excellence comes from excellence at all levels of what we do in training young sailors and coaches and getting kids out on the water.

US Sailing Center Miami-11-27-18, I joined Jack, Meredith, Stu and Malcolm for a meeting with the President of the Board, Ed Cabassa, Vice-President Brian Fink and Past President and Current Board Member, Mark Kamilar and the Executive Director, Pat Downey. We reviewed the objectives of the Sailing Center, clarified elements our Olympic Sailing usage of the Center over the winter months and offered through Stu to help connect resources to further help them deliver on their mission of outreach to the community.

Olympic Sailing Committee Meeting-11-29-18-held at the Sailing Center: Bruce Burton led an in person meeting for the entire Olympic Sailing Committee that included Malcolm, Greg, Meredith, Leandro and

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Nacra 17 coach Mike Ingham. John Schoendorf and I were invited to attend.

World Sailing Meetings

Reports from the delegates of World Sailing Meetings can be found [here](#). I will give a little more color during my verbal update.

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International Relations Work Group

Following up on the integrated calendar submission made to World Sailing and to start aligning efforts with Long Beach I have appointed a group to focus in on a strategic plan to align the USA plan for Olympic success with a worldwide long term Olympic class event plan that includes USA events for the next 10, 12 + years. Gary Bodie will lead this and include the following members: Fred Hagedorn, *Meredith Brody, and John Sangmeister. *Meredith will keep Malcolm and Greg up to date.

It's been a busy month with several opportunities to spend time with Board members. Nadine Dubina, Coach Development Manager from the USOC gave a terrific keynote speech. She told me how impressed she was that so many of us on the Board were taking the time to be at a symposium for coaches. She said that in other sports the leadership is often disconnected from the coaching side.

We are so fortunate to have such actively engaged Board members with such broad knowledge and experience. I look forward to working with each of you and our talented staff as we work to achieve the objectives in our strategic plan.

Sincerely,

Cory Sertl

President

