



February 22, 2019

## Presidents Report February 2019

Welcome back Jack from Antarctica! We look forward to learning about your trip and seeing pictures when we are all together for our Board meeting in March.

Due to my eye surgery and recovery over the last 6 weeks I wasn't able to attend either of the two major events in January: NSPS and HSWC Miami. Even from snowy Rochester, the feedback from both events was excellent and the compliments to our entire staff keep coming. The teamwork was tremendous especially considering the staff was split between the two.

Both events relied on tremendous volunteer support. At the NSPS in Jacksonville, volunteer presenters shared their passion with others creating a unique learning environment and take-aways for all attendees. Jacksonville University and Florida YC volunteers added the local connection and support.

I'd like to emphasize the tremendous volunteer effort on the water and land from so many of our tireless volunteers from all over who contributed their expertise on Race Management and in many support roles in Miami. Many local sailors and friends helped house volunteers and pitched in. Special thanks to Chicago YC, San Diego YC, New York YC and Annapolis YC for their support with their staff, volunteers from their clubs and equipment.

I'm looking forward to traveling this weekend to Annapolis to attend the Race Officials Symposium organized by Annapolis YC to share our strategic vision and speak about what's new at US Sailing and World Sailing.

Next week is San Francisco to attend the Rolex Yachtsman and Yachtswomen of the year luncheon hosted at St. Francis YC to honor the winners: Jud Smith and the Cowles sisters.

I've spent some time getting up to speed on the results of the recent USOC compliance review of US Sailing's bylaws and procedures. Together with Jack and



Lee Parks, I participated on a call going over the preliminary findings and determining what actions needed to be taken to comply.

This has involved gaining an understanding of new requirements that will be placed on all NGB's over the coming months with respect to Safe Sport. Lee Parks will update the board further Monday evening.

The discussions with the USOC have pointed out the need to modernize our bylaws relative to the Sailor Athlete Council and Sailor Athlete representation on the Board and designated committees.

I have asked Clerc Cooper and Fred Hagedorn to further research this topic. They are preparing an update to the Board and proposed wording for Bylaw and Regulation changes necessary to comply. The plan is to first, discuss Monday night to get the Board up to speed. After Board discussion, the proposal will then be sent to the Bylaws Committee for their Review and recommendation as to the wording to be voted on at a later Board meeting.

Have a nice weekend! I look forward to our call Monday evening and to our March in person meeting which will be strategic in nature and a great opportunity for all of us to work closely together.

Cory Sertl

President