

May 11, 2019

President's Report

Dear Board Members,

I am writing this from Jamestown, RI looking out on Narragansett Bay watching quite a few sailboats enjoying an early summer sail on this beautiful day. I am heading over to New York Yacht Club later today to represent US Sailing at the Commissioning of Harbor Court.

Over the last 6 weeks since our in person meeting in Bristol in March the Executive team of staff leaders (Jack, Peter, Donna, Mike, Lauren and Greg) have met regularly with the Board Executive group (Cory, Rich, Martine and John-Treas.) We are fortunate to have an engaged board leadership group that have each put in significant time over the last weeks working in various areas. Thank you to Martine, Rich and John.

I traveled to the ICOYC (International Council of Yacht Clubs) North American meeting at Eastern YC in Marblehead to participate in a panel discussion of how to spur more women to participate in sailing.

Next week I am heading to London with other US representatives to the World Sailing mid-year meetings of the Equipment, Events Committee and Council. We have some key leaders who represent us: Stan Honey (Chair of Oceanic and Offshore Committee) Dina Kowalyszyn (Chair of the Equipment Committee) Betsy Alison (Chair of the Para World Sailing Committee) Gary Bodie (Council and Events Committee member). Dina was chair of the evaluation team that conducted the one person dinghy evaluation in early March and produced the report recently published. The Equipment Committee has lead roles in planning and evaluating equipment options for the new Offshore Event for 2024, Kiteboard, Windsurfing and the mixed One Person dinghy.

As a result of this report, the "lobbying" for the equipment choice for the one person dinghy for 2024 has begun. The situation with the supply of Laser and Laser parts in the US has been problematical for a number of years and we watch with interest the communications from ILCA that may provide for better support and availability of equipment for sailors in the US. We have strong roots with the Laser/Radial and a commitment to the pathway through our ODP program and at this point in time I believe we need to continue to support this pathway. At the same time, we need to be open minded to change in the future, and consider the research.

Later this month I will be in Bristol attending the in person Olympic Sailing Committee meeting and supporting US Sailing's partnership with College Sailing Nationals that will be hosted by Sail Newport.

I had an opportunity to get an early start to my sailing season late April for Antigua Race Week as a guest tactician on board a Reflex 38 with a team of Canadian and US sailors. Great sailing conditions, challenging strategically, with a great backdrop of scenery! I'm looking forward to the sailing season here in the northeast.



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