



Minutes

September Board Meeting

📅 Mon September 23rd, 2019

🕒 7:30pm - 9:30pm EDT

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

In attendance: Board: CEO Jack Gierhart President Cory Sertl, Treas., John Schoendorf, Sec. Martine Zurinkas, VP Rich Jepsen, Tarasa Davis, Charlie Arms, Ron White, Bruce Burton, Dave Perry, Tony Rey, Clerc Cooper, Sally Barkow, Russ Lucas

Guests: 24 on-call including staff

II. Announcements and Presidents Report (7:30 pm)

Presidents Report: Stands as submitted can be found online at <https://www.ussailing.org/about/our-people/board-of-directors/presidents-report/>

Shared an update regarding World Sailing. They are in the process of reviewing governance, sees that there are many huge improvements to the policy.

III. Consent Calendar

Decision: Vote #1 Motion to Approve, unanimously approved.

Approved the minutes from July 29, 2019 Conference Call

BAR20190920 Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair

BAR20190731 Request for Country Change – approved by e-vote

BAR20190810 2018 IRS 990 Approval – approved by e-vote

IV. CEO and Association Aug/Sept Report (7:40-8pm)

Full Association Report at this link: <https://www.ussailing.org/about/our-people/board-of-directors/association-reports/>

The report stands as submitted; Dashboard shared. Shared updates regarding the USOPC Assembly, Racing Rules of Sailing Project and Olympic department.

V. Treasurer's Report (8-8:10pm)

Financial Report August financials – Dashboard is included in the Association report. Donna and John's reports stand as submitted. It was commented that we continue to meet our goals and are focused

on managing cash flow and expenses. but are still looking to improve membership. Rich pointed out that retention is closer to 65% if you do not take into account keelboat. Jack mentioned during the reorganization that a membership department was no longer included and we are beginning to see the numbers soften. We are realizing the need to focus more on driving membership retention.

VI. Department Report - Youth (8:10-8:20pm)

John Pearce gave an update on the recent expansion of the Youth Department, due to the added staff for the Siebel Sailors Program. He is excited by their new ideas and how they are brainstorming on how to build a cohesive culture within the Siebel program. He sees this can trickle down to youth sailing and set examples going forward. They will increase US Sailing's regional presence and help raise the standards and opportunities.

Additionally, he shared the department's long-term goals of expanding coach training with partnership from the Education Department and working with the Foundation to help establish support for programs that support access and diversity in sailing.

VII. Secretary Report (8:50-8:55pm)

Board Guidebook - a preliminary version that will reside on the new Board platform. This will help to onboard new members and will serve as a reference point for existing members.

November Board Meeting - In-person in Chicago on Nov 14th, followed by Midwest Stakeholders Summit on Nov 15

VIII. Old Business (8:55-9:00pm)

IX. New Business (9:00-9:10pm)

Kiteboarding Championship - Betsy Alison presented to the Board an initial concept of introducing a Kiteboarding Championship in lieu of the US Singlehanded Championship. Betsy addressed that interest for the singlehanded championship has waned and it has become increasingly difficult to find a Chair/lead. The intent is to host this in conjunction with the Regatta Series and help increase engagement and membership within the kiting community which has been embraced by the Olympic Games for 2024-2028. John Sangmeister asked to have a broader conversation regarding the matter. A follow-up call may be required before bringing a BAR for approval.

X. Executive Session

XI. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:50pm



Action Request Form

Request No. 20190920 Date Submitted: 09-20-19

Submitted By: Rich Jepsen

Subject: Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair

Action Requested (word this in resolution form):

So it be moved to approve Debora Abrams-Wright as the Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Member Impacts: Describe below the impacts (i.e. Will it be seen as a member benefit or not? Explain) Any perceived positive effects: Debora will activate diverse ethnicities, veterans and women, resulting in a stronger membership base.

Any perceived negative effects:

Will this proposal bring in new members?

Yes, Estimated Number No Unknown

Mission Impacts: Describe below how and why this creates value.

Positive impact (be specific): One of the most critical mission oriented initiatives we have, Diversity and Inclusion, will be headed by a hard working female sailor who has a long list of successful initiatives under her belt.

No impact (be specific):

Financial Impacts: Describe below any expected financial impacts on US Sailing. Include figures.

Positive effects - This choice, long term, will result in more members as we penetrate ethnic, gender, disability, veteran markets that were previously not open to us.

Negative effects:

Summary:

Debora Abrams-Wright, a military veteran, sailor and my nominee for Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, became a sailor as an adult and has been deeply involved with efforts to use sailing to improve the lives of able bodied and disabled veterans who have physical, cognitive or emotional challenges. She is passionate about diversity and inclusion in Sailing and has been the most engaged and active member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee started by Betsy Alison in 2018. She is a board member of the C. Thomas Clagett Memorial Regatta Foundation and actively works with disabled sailors. Debora has a strong background in education having worked with veterans, people with disabilities, and disadvantaged young adults in the culinary and computer science fields. She is a volunteer for Hudson River Community Sailing and is working on her US Sailing Basic Keelboat Instructor and Adaptive Sailing certifications as well as her USCG Six-Pack license. She has been a key player in many initiatives, Heroes on the Hudson, Sailing for Scholars, Impossible Dream, taking lessons learned



from these initiatives to inform her judgment on where US Sailing can improve its member numbers by working on diversity, inclusion and equity.

I certify that this proposal has been checked. Governing Documents affected:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Terms of Reference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Championship Conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Ted Stephens Act |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | |

Submitted by _____ Rich Jepsen, Vice President _____

Action Request to the Board of Directors



Request No. BAR# 20190731

Date Submitted: July 31, 2019

Submitted By: Malcolm Page, Chief of Olympic Sailing

Subject: Nationality Change for Tyler Paige from USA to ASA

Action Requested:

For the US Sailing Board of Directors to approve the nationality change of Tyler Paige from the United States of America to American Samoa (ASA).

Member Impacts: Describe below the impacts (i.e. Will it be seen as a member benefit or not? Explain)

Any perceived positive effects:

There are no member impacts.

Any perceived negative effects:

None.

Will this proposal bring in new members?

Yes, _____ Estimated Number

No Unknown

Mission Impacts: Describe below how and why this creates value.

Positive impact (be specific):

Good will with our membership.

Financial Impacts: Describe below any expected financial impacts on US Sailing. Include figures.

None.

Summary:

Tyler Paige, who has sailed a few 470 events for the USA, requests to change nationalities from the United States of America (USA) to America Samoa (ASA). Tyler would like to try and win the Oceania Continental spot to Tokyo 2020. He also plans to work with ASA in building a future double handed program.

I'm recommend that we release Tyler from the USA, for the following reasons:

- Tyler has only represented USA in one event that is governed by the IOC rules. 470 Junior World Championships.
- Tyler didn't have a strong performance and I see no threat to our top (multiple) 470 men sailors.
- US Sailing, USOPC both have never made any financial or resource allocation to Tyler.

The Olympic Sailing Committee has approved this nationality change because we believe that it will not impact the 470M results in Tokyo and it builds goodwill in our sport.

I certify that this proposal has been checked. Governing Documents affected:

Bylaws

Committee Terms of Reference

Championship Conditions

Ted Stephens Act

Regulations

Submitted by: Malcolm Page, Chief of Olympic Sailing



Action Request Form

Request No. BAR20190810 2018 IRS 990 Date Submitted: 8-10-19

Submitted By: Donna Kane – CFO US Sailing

Subject: Approval of 2019 990

Action Requested (word this in resolution form):

So it be moved to approve the presented 2018 IRS 990. This was approved by the Audit Committee in early August 2019. Supporting documents from the 2018 Audit were presented at the July 29th, 2019 Board of Directors Conference Call.

Member Impacts: Describe below the impacts (i.e. Will it be seen as a member benefit or not? Explain)

Any perceived positive effects:

Follows Bylaws.

Any perceived negative effects:

Will this proposal bring in new members?

Yes, Estimated Number No Unknown

Mission Impacts: Describe below how and why this creates value.

Positive impact (be specific):

Maintaining bylaws.

Financial Impacts: Describe below any expected financial impacts on US Sailing. Include figures.

None.

Summary:

Q&A on the 2018 Audit was conducted during the July29th Conference Call. The 2018 IRS 990 must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to submission.

I certify that this proposal has been checked. Governing Documents affected:

- Bylaws, Championship Conditions, Regulations, Committee Terms of Reference, Ted Stephens Act

Submitted by Donna Kane