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January 2021 President's Report

Moment of silence for 2 remarkable men who died in the last month and their incredible service to the sport. Ding Schoonmaker, who was awarded in 1989 the Herreshoff (US Sailing's most prestigious award) and 2011, World Sailing's most prestigious award the Beppe Croce award. Bill Bentsen received the Herreshoff in 1994 and the Beppe Croce Award in 2009.

World Sailing – We are soon welcoming new committee members to World Sailing, awaiting final confirmation by vote of Council this week. As noted in my remarks about Ding and Bill we have big shoes to fill for our international delegation and those who follow.

Olympics- 100% on. The focus is on how to make the Olympics happen. It will be different.

We have many behind the scenes **working groups** supporting staff some of these include: examples of staff led- volunteer supported including two examples:

Athlete Working Group – Briana, Fred, Judge, Katie, Rich- working on updating the athlete definitions re: 10 year and 10 year plus and actively engaged athletes.

US Sailing Race Official Standards Working Group – tackling several items including the definition of judicial temperament.

USOPC compliance – Board survey- resources from the USOPC re: everything we have to do as an NGB USOPC has made a grant to US Sailing for the CEO search- thank you Meredith for following up on this.

CEO search is being led by VP Rich Jepsen. The search firm leading the national search is Prodigy Search and the link to the posting is [here](#).

We thank the SFYC Foundation for their recent contributions directly to athletes. See [video](#) of St. Francis YC Commodore, Ken Glidewell sharing the latest news of generous support. It takes the support of our greater sailing family to help our Team USA athletes succeed at the Olympics and we thank all organizations and individuals who step up to support the Olympic effort.

As we start 2021 and focus on striving for excellence in Tokyo, now 2021 we are focusing on next steps with Project Pinnacle, the McKinsey supported plan and vision for success over the longer-term horizon.

Thanks to our interim Staff Management team of Heather, Peter, Jill, Lauren and Mike that continue to focus our staff on the quest to be the best we can be. Our staff team continues to think innovatively, to be resourceful and adapt in the current work from home environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cory Sertl".

Cory Sertl, President

