

## Shields Class Governing Board Meeting October 11, 2011

Members in attendance by conference call:

Mike Schwartz, President  
Wendy Goodwin, Secretary  
Richard Robbins, Measurer  
Jay Dayton, VP Tred Avon Oxford, MD  
Stephen Potter, VP Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, MA  
Andrew Segal, VP Ida Lewis Newport, RI  
Rick Hendee, VP Captains Harbor Fleet Greenwich, CT  
Roland Schulz, VP Larchmont, NY  
Christopher Wick, VP Masons Island, CT  
Wayne Marciano, Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club Oyster Bay, NY  
Jan Slee, Newport  
Peter Clark, Newport

**1. Treasurers Report;** A motion was made & carried to accept Fred Werblow's treasurer's report with a note that for the first time the cost to print & distribute the newsletter exceeded the dues. The Officers will work to keep costs in check & increase membership.

**2. Secretary report;** Wendy discussed the current membership list & its need for members & fleet captains to help keep this current. The Mastheads are traditionally created by the host fleet, but Oyster Bay & Marion will share responsibility for the next 2 newsletters. Perpetual trophies were discussed to assure a record of the recipient is made so they do not get lost. It was discussed whether the perpetual remain in one location or whether the recipient should continue to bring it home for 1 year. Roland Schultz is heading up a committee to discuss the Shields National Championship silver trophy as we have run out of room for engraving.

A timetable for the next newsletter was discussed & each fleet rep was asked to submit a report. They would like to have the content for the next newsletter in the next 7 days. Richard will supply a measurer's corner article & Wendy will supply a "from the builder" article & a secretary's review of this meeting.

### 3. Old Business-Nationals:

- Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA will hosts 2012 Nationals. The fleet is currently meeting & delegating responsibility.
- Jan Slee & Peter Clark presented and discussed their proposal for hosting the 2013 Nationals. They are considering the week before as well as the week after Labor Day. Jan will chair the event & everything will run out of Ida Lewis. Ida Lewis has hosted multiple well run Shields Nationals in the past. Different racing locations will be considered depending on the weather conditions. They will supply launching, tow boats & hope to get 50 boats on the line. Jan questioned what the Associations ruling on advertising & sponsorship. Wayne reviewed how Oyster Bay successfully supplemented expenses with local sponsorship from BMW & a local winery among others. Newport plans to have an entry fee of \$550 per boat.
- Jay Dayton outlined the Tred Avon proposal for hosting the 2013 Nationals. They hosted successfully in 2008 & have a long history of successful National events hosting 20-25 regattas a year. The format will be the same as others, arrival Tuesday, practice Wednesday, Racing-Thursday-Saturday. All visitors will be housed locally at no extra cost & spectator boats & professional photography will be available. Meals will include BBQ, Crab night, Sails & Ale & Surf & Turf. Jay notes their proposal has been in the Governing Boards hands since January. The fee will be \$550 which includes a skipper & 3 crew. Additional crew members can be added for \$115.
- Open floor discussion prompted the following comments from the Officers & VP's:
  - Two bids is a good problem to have
  - Many owners would prefer later dates to extend the season. Both venues are capable. Oxford could use the support for fleet building.

- Fleet building for Tred Avon will give the fleet a much needed shot in the arm. This helped Oyster Bay & was much appreciated. Jay agreed that when they hosted in 07 it was a large boost. Since then, local attendance has dropped & they average 5 boats on the line.
- As our local fleets race until Labor Day, most would prefer a date after Labor Day.
- One fleet would prefer a July/August regatta.
- Either fleet would do a good job. It has been 6 years since Newport hosted & 5 years since Tred Avon on hosted. Larchmont has put a verbal bid in for 2014 so the next slot available would be 2015.
- It would be important to not continually focus the Nationals in the same location & to move it around a bit. It's important to support the fleet building of our smaller fleets.
- The group decided to discuss these important comments with the fleet members. It was decided to pose the question to the fleets & send a ballot out to the membership within 10 days via blast e-mail.

**4. Technical Committee Report:** by Richard Robbins

- The 2011 slate of Technical Committee Members passed. Com Crocker, Bill Berry, Schuyler Benson, Kim Roberts, Kristian Martincic, Bam Miller, Mark Swanson.
- Richard described submitting an interpretation regarding damages based on trauma (collisions) and based on age. Members are asked to report to the Technical Committee for repairs from both types of damage. Owners are asked to describe how they did the repair. The committee is currently working on a list of best practices & recommendations for acceptable repairs & non acceptable repairs. This was tabled & Richard will share the draft document with the officers.
- The current rule requires the seats be 51" long but many Shields Seats measure under/over. A motion was made & accepted to change the rule so seats must be at least 50" long.
- The current class rules requires the sail cards used to report new sails measured by fleet measurers. An electronic version is now being used & the proposal is to eliminate the old cards & go electronic. As suggestion was made to purchase & require new sails to have sail buttons as a visible showing the sails passed. The current method is to mark the tack with a sharpie sail number/year measured & measurer's initials. A motion to use the electronic sail registration was made, seconded & passed. It was requested that the details on each electronic sail measuring be made public, not just available to the sail owner & fleet measurer.
- Host fleets have difficulty scoring the senior & junior skipper awards due to the use of co skippers & when persons in charge actually don't take the helm. It was proposed that we define the person in charge the same way it is defined in the RRS. It was also proposed that co skippers both be eligible for both JR & SR skipper awards. Also, that we do not require the skipper be the helmsman. This issue was tabled & Mike Schwartz & Richard will continue to discuss.
- Fred Werblow would like to change the dues fee schedule as members can get confused as to what to pay. This motion to simplify the cost for the boat & each member was seconded & passed.

Current Rule	Rule Change
<b>§II-3.5 Dues shall be prescribed by the Association as annual dues.</b>	<b>II-3.5 Dues shall be prescribed by the Association as annual dues.</b>
Registered Yacht \$35	Registered Yacht and one Active Member (Skipper or regular Helmsperson) \$50
Active Member \$15	Active Member (each additional Skipper or regular Helmsperson) \$15
	Associate Member

Associate Member \$10	\$10
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**5. Action needed:**

1. Wayne, Wendy & Richard will work together on the next 2 newsletters. Each officer/VP is asked to write an article for publication in the newsletter. Rich Robbins will supply a measurers blurb & Wendy will supply a from the builder & secretary report.
2. The trophy committee headed by Roland will discuss the options for the Shields Class National trophy as there is no more room for engraving. They are getting input from past winners. They will also work on a solution as to where to keep the perpetual as opposed to the trophies going home with the winner.
3. Rich Robbins will send a blast e-mail ballot in the next 10 days to allow fleets to vote on whether they would like Newport or Tred Avon to host the 2013 Shields Nationals.
4. Rich Robbins will supply the new wording for best practices on acceptable & not acceptable repairs.
5. Mike Schwartz & Rich Robbins will work on alternatives for defining the person in charge/co skipper.

Our next scheduled meeting is November 8, 2011.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin  
Secretary