

Shields Class Governing Board Meeting 2-12-13

Attendees: Mike Schwartz, Rick Gibson, Com Crocker, Fred Werblow, Chris Wick, Richard Robbins, Rick Hendee, Andy Segal, Roland Schultz, Wendy Goodwin

Fred gave **treasurer's report**:

SHIELDS CLASS SAILING ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT
ACTIVITY SINCE THE January 7, 2013 Report

Receipts-

Sale of 4 ties \$100.00

Payments-

None

Net receipts 100.00

WEBSTER BANK BALANCE \$20,899.86

There remain in inventory 43 Shields Class design ties held for sale.

There was then discussion of monies and what to do with funds. A suggestion was made that we have a budget so we know what we can afford. Fred agreed to put together a budget for next meeting. The agreement was that we should continue to use funds for visibility & fleet growth. The Masthead continues to be our best investment. No one thought funds were excessive or ill used.

This moved into the discussion of the **Great Lakes Challenge Cup**. Most had some degree of interest. Rick Hendee, Com Crocker and a Mike Schwartz or another Chicago fleet person will put together a preliminary NOR. The date for the Cup seemed to center around July of 2014. Questions/Comments were:

Will people participate?

Can the Nationals Committee support it so it will be revenue neutral?

Will this event increase our visibility?

Some liked how this event will get Shields sailors together

It was reminiscent of the Patriot Cup/wasn't successful as owners were uncomfortable loaning boats

It was stated that this is a fleet race, not a team race & local fleets would have to qualify.

An owner's rep would be aboard; racing would take place in the Great Lakes

When a straw poll was taken, no one was against this.

It was asked, how many active fleets we have: answer 8-10.

This would be done early in the season so it won't conflict with the Shields Nationals.

The Shields fleet was also invited to the Nantucket Cup and the Roosevelt Bowl.

Some members are luke warm about the idea-depend on the date.

It was asked why it has to be in Shields & if it's not in Shields it would be counter-productive.

It was asked why we are considering this if we have a participation problem at the Nationals.

It was asked how this could encourage participation with other existing events.

This could be an incentive to get boats in the water sooner.

It was stated that this works in other fleets (IOD).

It was stated the sponsoring committee could make this funding neutral.

Some members are enthusiastic & are packing their sails....The trophy for this event is beautiful.

Some expressed concern about an early date & they don't want to cannibalize the Nationals.

This event would be introduced in June/July 2014.

The group will continue to discuss & would like to see a prelim NOR

Secretary's Report: Wendy attended the Atlantic Class dinner meeting. They successfully increased their Nationals from the usual 30 to 41 boats in Blue Hill this past summer. They are in process of publishing a book about the Atlantic 30. They also recently sold the boat the class had in stock and would like to order another. The Atlantic Class orders a bare hull to have on hand to help increase their fleets.

Wendy attended the Larchmont Yacht Club annual awards for local Shields racing. The Shields class Association perpetual trophies are now housed at the LYC for protection & she was there to official thank the club. The Yacht Club is in process of writing up an agreement with regard to insurance coverage. It was requested the photo be posted to Facebook and the Shields class website. The LYC discussed during the awards meeting the upcoming Nationals in 2014 and they look to be ready to host!

Plans for the **2014 Shields Nationals** in Larchmont were spelled out by Com Crocker:

1. Date: 1st weekend in October (before Columbus Day Weekend) or September 17 . They like the idea of separation from Labor Day but conflict Jewish Holidays.
2. They also want to celebrate the event by holding a "Legends Race" on Wednesday/registration day. Chet Proctor, Dick Ronan, Mary Savage & others together to celebrate the class history of its champions.
3. Numbers: They want 50 Shields to attend. It will take a lot of work. Larchmont apologetically had 0 boats attend Nationals in Marion. They will send Shields to MD to support the class & Oxford to move forward.
4. It was recommended that all hosts consider a Fri/Sat/Sun as it's easier to get crew to commit/take time off from work. Larchmont is considering, that's why they liked hosting over the holiday weekend.
5. They discussed having the banquet dinner in the middle of the event vs. the end.
6. Newport was asked if they have an opinion; they said fri/sun or Thurs/Sat is no concern-a conflict with a 12 meter event is a problem.
7. Butch Ullmer will be the PRO

Dues: It was asked if we could put a dues notice in the Masthead as it encourages new membership. We need to encourage more associate membership as the crews are our future owners. It was asked if anyone was against collecting the dues direct from the membership as opposed through fleet treasurers. We don't want to alienate any fleet. It was agreed that we will put a dues notice in the newsletter. It was asked if it was the treasurer's job or the secretary's job to chase after local fleet treasurers for non payment-no. Currently the local treasurers must send dues notices for a payment to be sent to the class treasurer by August 1. It was asked if there is a technology that could be used to streamline this process-yes-Regatta Network. Perhaps our current treasury funds could be used to update the dues process.

Technical Committee: Richard reports things are quiet on the technical side. They talked about allowing roller reefing jibs to co exist with traditional jibs. People wouldn't be rejected from racing but the roller furling would slow the boat down. The technical committee will put a written rule together. It was said that some object as it would no longer be one design. The rules committee is recommending a co existence as it will attract more folks to the boat. It was stated that a RF jib is convenient. It was also stated that the lack of a RF jib is the main reason folks considering the purchase of a Shields chose something else. It was asked why the RF jib would be slower. More discussion is needed & the committee will submit something in writing.

Adopt Fleet 4: It was discussed if Fleet 4 would be re-activated under the fleet Rep-Rick Gibson and known as the Northern MA Bay fleets. They do get together for races and the boats are spread out over 20 miles in bays north of Boston. They are planning 3 or 4 events this year. The group voted & it was passed unanimously that this fleet is again in full force. Rick will send Fred & Wendy the dues & members list, including the crew.

The Shields Nationals 2013 NOR to be held in Oxford is now on the website. Please sign up.

Our next conference call is scheduled for April 9th at 7:30.

Respectfully Submitted

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary