

Shields Class Association Governing Board phone conference 10-22-13:

Members in attendance:

Com Crocker-Larchmont & incoming President (1)	Rick Hendee-Indian Harbor (2)
Mike Schwartz-Chicago & Outgoing President (3)	Stephen Potter-Edgartown (8)
Wendy Goodwin-Marion & Secretary (10)	Betsy Yale-Newport (9)
Kristian Martincic-Chicago & incoming Tech (3)	Garth Hobson-Monterey (12)
Richard Robbins-Marion & outgoing Tech (10)	Rick Gibson-Northern Bay MA (4)
Jay Dayton-Oxford & incoming treasurer (21)	Jan Slee-Newport (9)
Roland Schultz-Larchmont/trophy chairman(1)	Jason Van Inwegen-Marion (10)

Presidents Report: Thank you to the outgoing officers for your time, commitment to the association and your leadership. We will do our best to keep up the level of enthusiasm. Thank you to Richard Robbins for continuing on as a VP. Thank you to Jay & Kristian for signing on. Thank you to the Tred Avon fleet & the entire Oxford community for the hospitality on & off the water for the 2013 Shields National Regatta.

In our upcoming meetings we will have a broader agenda. We need to consider how our class can support & grow it's fleets and how we can support turn out for the Shields National regatta. We also need to consider how best to invest the class funds. We need to define what the funds are to be used for.

Treasurers Report: Fred's report has been posted on the Shields Class website at http://shieldsclass.com/secretary/financial09_12_2013.pdf. He is not able to join us on the call. The current balance on the bank account is \$21,333.00 as more dues & expenses occurred after Nationals. Fred & Jay will connect in the coming weeks to establish an account in a bank near Jay. Mike will also follow up with Fred & Jay about the Shields class ties in stock. Jay is still waiting for the bills to settle after the Nationals.

Secretary's Report: All the minutes from the Annual meeting in Oxford & the Governing Board meetings have been posted on the Shields Class website. My goal in the coming months is to work with others about getting the membership automatically updated & members have the ability to make online dues payments.

Technical Committee Report: Kristian is in need of suggestions for forming his committee. Fleet Reps, please contact Kristian and Com with your local fleet measurer contacts. He would like to bring back Bam Miller from the Oyster Bay fleet. Contributing in the Technical committee is an interesting way to know the boat & the class. There are some issues Kristian would like to re-visit:

1. Loose Footed Main. There is enough interest to re-open this. They will go back through the minutes to re-write the proposal. Fleets are currently experimenting with this & it's possible it was just a communication issue that prevented some of the fleets from voting it down.
2. Full upper batten on mainsail: Garth from the west coast asks if the committee can discuss.

It was requested that if either of these pass that the old style design would be phased out. Please send Kristian your fleet measurer contacts so he can form his committee.

New & Old Business:

Membership Issues: Wendy outlined the memberships desire to be able to pay electronically. Moving our database to Regatta Network will not only allow members to pay dues electronically but also the network will maintain membership contact information & allow members to update their own. Jay suggested that we do both. We can continue to run some fleets more traditionally-ie fleet treasurer collects dues & sends one check to the class treasurer. We could also allow some fleets to pay electronically if they desire & also single members could pay electronically without fleet affiliation. It was suggested that the due date for dues be moved. It's currently in August & Fred did a lot of chasing after folks. Multiple fleets don't allow racers to be

scored for local races unless their class dues are paid. It was also noted that there are more shields where the owners are not a member of the class association than owners that are members. We as a whole need to bring these owners into the association & create ways they can be involved. Many just haven't been asked to join. The group would like to have a goal of getting the remainder of the boats involved with the association. Jay was appointed head of a sub-committee to focus on

1. membership dues & how members can pay & update their contact information
2. Pulling in members from non-racing fleets & engaging them.

Others on this committee are Com Crocker, Rick Hendee and Jan Slee. It was commented that this should be outsourced to a third party to handle. Currently the class is totally run with all volunteers. This third party would see to it that membership was auto renewed. Let's spend the \$ to make it easier & more efficient for our volunteers.

Trophy Home: There is more to do with regard to our perpetual trophies. Should we replace the missing perpetual trophies. We need to look at the current rules for how the trophies are handled. Kristian will look at the wording in the blue book so we can vote on a revision. Roland still needs to encourage the Larchmont YC to write a letter of understanding regarding the care & storage of the perpetuals. This year Roland worked with Rosemary Juliany to sign the trophies in/out for the Nationals. There was discussion about whether the Larchmont YC is insuring them. It was suggested that the class insure the trophies that they own. The class does not currently have insurance coverage for the perpetual trophies. In the past officers looked into whether to categorize us as a 501C3 and it was unclear if we have an EIN#. History: Fred just set up a bank account. It was asked whether we should incorporate but in the past it was determined we should not bother with 501C3 status. We could just be an LLC which is less complicated. Jay can look into insurance. Jan informed that in certain cases insurance is less costly for an S-Corp than a LLC. More work & discussion is needed.

Masthead: Richard Slaughter asks for all fleet reports. His e-mail is richard@attractionmag.com. Right now the only content is Nationals. The deadline is the 2nd week of November. The last Masthead contained a report from every fleet & they want that to continue. Note that Newport will be responsible for spring 2015 and fall 2015.

Challenge Cup: Mike Schwartz wasn't prepared with any new news. The event was presented to the powers that be at Chicago YC for an event to be run in Chicago early spring & then it would move to which ever fleet wins the cup. The cup currently resides in Chicago. For 2014 it would be held possibly in June (either the 14th or 21st) & fleets would send top racers in their fleet & race in borrowed boats. Each team would only need to bring sails. Racing would be 2 days of fun. It would be a good way to use the treasury funds. It was suggested that the timing not conflict with local race schedules. This will be more firmed up by next meeting as Mike will supply a draft NOR. Chris Wick asked if Mike would write an article about it for the Masthead.

National Regatta:

2014 Shields Nationals-Larchmont, NY: Wednesday Sept 10, 2014 to Saturday Sept 13, 2014. Larchmont is considering an event on the arrival day for friends of the class or Legends. They are shooting for a 50 boat turn out as it's our 50th. They are drafting the NOR & will have early registration up on the website soon. They also would like a way to include non-racers in a fun way, perhaps a distance race or a classic division.

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: Third week of August 2015 or September 23-27. They have meetings scheduled shortly to firm up the dates.

2016-the Class association is currently accepting proposals. Garth from the Monterey fleet expressed their desire to put in a bid. It would be mostly a borrowed boat event. They have 13 boats in their fleet. It was also noted that Edgartown, Mystic & Chicago are due. Proposals may be sent using the form on the website.

Applications should be sent to the class association by February and the group must vote on the proposals within 90 days in accordance with the rules in the blue book.

Sponsorship: Jan Slee will work with H.L. Devore & North Sails to see how they can help. Don't be shy about speaking up with regard to sponsorship as this keeps the class & Nationals Regattas healthy.

Reminder:

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2016 Now accepting applications

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary