

Shields Class Governing Board Meeting

March 14th, 2017

MINUTES

Attending

Eric Anderson	President	John Klein	Fleet 8
Peter McWhinnie	Secretary	Bill Berry	Fleet 10
Jay Dayton	Fleet 21		
Ted Slee	Fleet 9		
Chris Wick	Fleet 19		
Richard Robbins	Fleet 10		

The meeting began at 8:00 EST

1) President's Report: Eric Anderson

- President thanked people for attending call.
- Masthead: Robert Banas, Fleet 19, is editor, will be emailing Fleet Captains for news, high resolution photos for next edition. There will be 3 pages for Fleet news in this edition – more space than in the Fall edition which was space constrained given the Nationals coverage.
- Ocean Great Lakes Challenge 2018:
 - A fleet needs to step up and volunteer for this. No immediate decision needed.
 - Jay Dayton (Oxford) will ask club/fleet about possibility of hosting in 2018, but thinks it is unlikely given they are hosting Star Worlds and expecting 90 boats from 50 countries.

2). Treasurer's Report: Jay Dayton

- Not a lot to report.
- Opening Balance: \$8,259.04
 - Deposits: Fleet #21 Annual Dues: 3/8/17 +\$560
 - Withdrawals: Bonnier (Harken One Design Ad) -\$150
- Closing Balance: \$8,669.04
- Discussion:
 - Question: Eric: how does this compare to last year? Jay will follow up.
 - Will be paying recent invoice from HL Devore for webhosting, who had generously been paying for this for quite some time.
 - Eric asked if Fleet had a credit card. Jay: fleet does, it needs to be activated and then webhosting fees can be transferred to that credit card.

3) Secretary's Report: Peter McWhinnie

Membership roster update

- Current status similar to late 2016 (only delta is earlier mis-classification of Chicago Associates by Secretary)
- I will send out current lists to Fleet Captains to assist with update/accuracy of addresses etc (we still have ~10-15 Mastheads not getting to the Members)
- Rosters will be updated as dues are paid.

	FLEET	End 2015			2016 - Nov			Change 2015-2016			Current		
		Member +Yacht	Associate	Grand Total	Member +Yacht	Associate	Grand Total	Member+ Yacht	Associate	Grand Total	Member +Yacht	Associate	Grand Total
	None	0	4	4				0	-4	-4			
Larchmont YC	1	29		29	24	2	26	-5	2	-3	24	2	26
Indian Harbor YC	2	1		1				-1	0	-1			
Chicago YC	3	9	1	10	8	8	16	-1	7	6	9		9
Northern Massachussets Bay	4	5	4	9	5	4	9	0	0	0	5	4	9
Navy Post Graduate School, Monterey	7	4		4	7	10	17	3	10	13	7	10	17
Edgartown YC	8	9	4	13	12		12	3	-4	-1	12		12
Ida Lewis	9	41		41	33	5	38	-8	5	-3	35	5	40
Beverly YC	10	13	2	15	21	2	23	8	0	8	21	2	23
Monterey Peninsula YC	12	12	1	13	10	23	33	-2	22	20	10	23	33
Coaster Harbor Navy YC	17	6		6	3		3	-3	0	-3	3		3
Mason's Island YC	19	13	4	17	13	2	15	0	-2	-2	13	2	15
CSU Long Beach	20	1		1				-1	0	-1			
Tred Avon YC	21	18		18	14		14	-4	0	-4	14		14
	Grand Total	161	20	181	150	56	206	-11	36	25	153	48	201

Results of Survey on Changing the Days for Shields Nationals

- There were 52 respondents, majority of whom had previously attended Nationals
- In general, more respondents were in favor of changing the racing days to Friday-Sunday and this was true both for respondents who had, and who had not, attended a Nationals in the past.
- Full results have been distributed with this report and are on the Class Website. Summary results below:

Q6 Are you in favor of moving race days in future Nationals from Thursday, Friday and Saturday to Friday, Saturday and Sunday?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 4

	Strongly against	Moderately against	Neutral - I don't care	Moderately in favor	Strongly in favor	Total
I am....	8.33% 4	18.75% 9	22.92% 11	25.00% 12	25.00% 12	48

- Discussion:
 - Pete: while more respondents were in favor of changing dates, can also look at results and say they are polarizing as a number of respondents are strongly or moderately against the change.
 - Richard: don't think this information impacts Mystic – dates are set – and in general there is no need to make a formal decision for 2018 either.
 - There was a lengthy discussion about the information in the survey, and the consensus view was:
 - That the appropriate days may vary by location, and logistics for majority of skippers.
 - With a more “local” event, finishing racing on Sunday and driving back later that day could be feasible for many. However, if the location were, say, Chicago, the length of drive for people towing in makes that impractical
 - Ted Slee commented that for Monterey, with a borrowed boat, they wanted to get out early, prepare the boat.
 - That Class does not need to make a decision, hosting Fleets can have flexibility to decide which days are most appropriate.
 - That we should take more time to review and digest the information in the survey, and discuss with local Fleets.

4) Technical Committee Report: Bill Berry

- Aiming to get a meeting for Tuesday 21st to discuss open issues.

5) Discussion Topics

A: Ocean Great Lakes Challenge Review (Pete McWhinnie)

- General update: making progress with organization for the event:
 - NOR and entry form have been finalized and posted on website.
 - Charter boats: currently have 7 commitments; optimistic we will have 10 boats available
 - Need to make more progress on other areas.
- Eric asked about entries to date: Pete: not aware of any.
 - Eric commented that this event tends to “sneak up” and encouraged Fleet Captains to discuss with their Fleets. Expecting at least 5 visiting boats at this point: Rick Gibson (Fleet 4), 2 from West Coast (Fleet 7, 12) Fleet 9, 21 very likely
- Questions:
 - Bill Berry asked why the insurance deductible (\$1000) was so high vs \$500 at Marion. Pete: we used same approach and figure as at Monterey Nationals; will check LYC club insurance deductible to confirm the figure.

B. 2019 Nationals Proposals: Chicago, Oxford

- Eric asked if Board had any questions about the proposals, or feedback from their Fleets.
 - Ted Slee: Fleet 10 had been polled and majority preferred Chicago. Fleet sent one boat in 2009.
 - Eric: with 9 active Shields and 2 other boats available, will need some boats to tow in to Chicago in order to get a good attendance.
- Jay Dayton: Fleet 21 wants to amend proposal to set entry fee at \$675 for 5 crew (vs \$650 for 4 plus \$115 for 5th crew) to make event more affordable. There were no objections to this proposal and this change was duly accepted by the Board.
- Comments on the choice of Chicago vs Oxford:
 - Oxford had hosted more recently than Chicago – which favors the latter.
 - Chicago proposal had already been pushed back by 1 year to accommodate 2018 Nationals at Edgartown.
 - Some concern about level of enthusiasm at Chicago: tendency not to show up at Nationals; OGLC, monthly calls.
- Vote: a vote will be scheduled following next month’s meeting. Voting will be by email to Eric and Pete. Should be 10 votes.
- Prior to this vote, Fleet Captains should canvas their Fleets for their opinions on location.

C: 2017 Nationals, Mystic (Chris Wick)

- Update:
 - Making progress: sponsorship going well, working on a judge.
 - Entries to date: some from Fleet 19 (Mystic), but none from outside yet.
- There were no questions.

D. New England Shields Championships: Richard Robbins provided update:

- NOR posted. Boats can sign up at any time.
- Need 6 boats, are aiming for 10.
- Ted Slee: commented that there was a lot of good sailing on the calendar in 2017, but that there were also conflicts for many crews. Nonetheless, Fleet 9 hoped to send representatives to OGLC, Nationals and New England Championships.

E: Class Officer Elections (Eric)

- 2017 is the year to elect another slate of Officers
- Eric will check if people are willing to take on/continue in relevant roles.
- Per Class Rules, there will be a Nominating Committee of 3 people. Will aim for slate at beginning of August – noting that rules require publication of slate 30 days before Class Meeting.

Any other business? None.

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm EST.