IOD WCA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

2017 September 27 – 1100 Eastern, 1600 Zulu

Call to order at 1103 Eastern

Present:
Charlie Van Voorhis, President
Craig Davis, VP
William Dowling, Treasurer
Steve Madeira, VP
Paul Manning, VP
Bjorn Wahlstrom, VP

Timmy Dittrich, Paul Manning, VP
Timmy Dittrich, VP
Bjorn Wahlstrom, VP
Roy Weedon, Secretary

Guests:
John Roberts
Bill Widnall

2017 Worlds Re-cap: John Roberts

• It is important to know who is coming, as early as possible. Anything that can be done to facilitate that process would be a big help for the organizers.
• Did not use the wild apricot site much. This system has potential and could be used better for international folks.
• NOR + Si’s are not easy and smooth w/ ISAF regs / Judges... need a heck of a lot more time. Fundraising standpoint was over the top (social events). Entry fees + ticket sails did not cover all the expenses. 65% only.
• Small windows of good winds... rotation requirement was stressful / but it worked out. 2 to 1 ratio on ribs... use as many ribs as possible and get it done. It was pleasant surprise how smoothly that went.
• Small regret that Freddy and I called racing early the first day because of protests on the water... when we returned to the fleet no protests were filed...
• Struggled with: Press side / TV + print folks. No national or international contacts. WCA might have been able to do more there.
• Not clear whether fleet has the authority to use older generation sail - worth looking into. Could have had two more boats if older sails had been used.

Treasurer Report: Bill Dowling:
No activity in treasurer report. All dues were collected prior to the Worlds. All okay will send balance in an email after the meeting.

WCA Trophy Shipping expenses: Paul Manning:
Motion to approve reasonable shipping expenses to send All World Class Trophies.
Charlie Van Voorhis asked that all receipts be sent to the Treasurer. Motion made by Paul Manning, seconded by Timmy Dittrich and approved unanimously with no abstentions.

By-Laws / Constitution conversations: General Discussion
There was unanimous agreement that the work that was begun last year to update the IOD WCA Constitution and Bylaws should continue.

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Bjorn Wahlstrom agreed to get together with the other Scandinavian fleets to dig into the documents a little more and try to understand the proposed changes, their rationale and what impact they might have on the WCA. He offered to get together soon, within the next month or so. We will go over these documents and their fleet rules as well. Charlie suggested that they try to have something back to the Executive Committee before the next scheduled meeting in October.

There was general discussion that the effort should be inclusive and that any sub-committee formed to study the matter should include members of the original working group, the IOD WCA Executive Committee and any fleets not represented by those two groups. There was also general agreement that the effort should not be rushed and that the members and the fleets should have enough time to consider the changes carefully. Paul Manning suggested that a complete and accurate document be maintained online to highlight all of the changes with notes describing the reasons for any change. This document should be made available to all members and fleets.

It was noted that the proposed changes included two distinct types. One was the innocuous and simple changes like correcting typos, changing "yacht" to "boat" or altering the numbering of the original document. The other dealt with more complicated issues like the relationship between the local fleets and the IOD WCA, the proper role of the class rules and how to resolve conflicts about those issues should they arise. It was agreed that building consensus on this second type is necessary to move the project forward to completion.

The following members of the Executive Committee, Craig Davis, Timmy Dittrich, Bill Dowling, Steve Madeira, Paul Manning, Charlie Van Voorhis & Bjorn Wahlstrom all volunteered to serve on the Constitution and Bylaw subcommittee. In addition, Charlie Van Voorhis agreed to reach out to both the remaining members of the original working group – Bob Duffy, Charlton Rugg and Paul Zupan - and to other fleets not represented by the either group for additional volunteers.

There was unanimous support for being proactive and diligent in querying fleets for feedback, circulating proposed language and keeping members abreast of our work. The first meeting of this new group was scheduled for October 11, 2017 at 1100 Eastern time and Paul Manning agreed make the arrangements for the conference.

2017-2018 IODWCA Executive Committee - Discussion of priorities:  

The call was ended without a thorough discussion of executive committee priorities, but Charlie Van Voorhis noted that of the responses he had already received, there was surprising consensus already.

The themes that appeared in almost all of the responses included the following:
1) Complete revisions to governing documents
2) Collect remaining fleet-specific amendments to class rules
3) Improved communications – with the outside world, between and among the fleets, on web site, with social media
4) Reconcile the differences between the IODWCA and the San Francisco Fleet

Adjourn 12:10 EST

Regular meetings are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month. Next regular meeting is scheduled for 1100 Eastern time on October 18, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Weedon, Secretary

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