

June 15, 2019

2019 IODWCA President's Report

It was 30 years ago this season that an IOD, barely floating, sailed into my life. Since that day I have been restoring, sailing, repairing, racing, repairing, campaigning, repairing, traveling, repairing, re-rigging, delivering, repairing, living and breathing IODs.

These last two years I have had the privilege of serving a fantastic group of like-minded sailors around the world, as President of this Association. And for that I am very grateful.

My wife who married me just a two years before this all started, 32 years ago this week, is even more grateful that when I return home tonight, my obligations to this Class will begin a less time-consuming chapter.

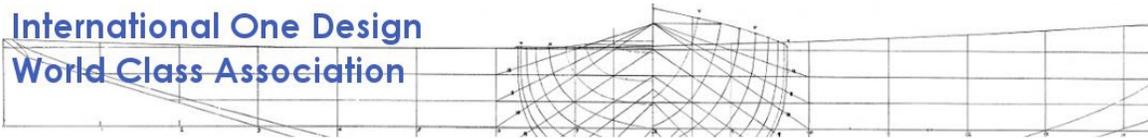
Before I step away, however, I would like to make sure that you have a better idea of the people who do the work behind the scenes to support this Class - volunteering their time, effort and expertise for this organization and to make sure that I thank as many of them as I can. This report is really a long thank you, so please bear with me...

I'd like to start by thanking the Regatta Chair and Marblehead Fleet Captain, Greg Mancusi-Ungaro and the entire the Marblehead Fleet for welcoming so many of us here today and preparing what I am confident will be an absolutely wonderful event on and off the water. And thank you, to all of the competitors, judges and race officials that make these events so enjoyable. I wish you all the best for the coming week.

The work of the Class Association is spread out among its eight committees and dozens of volunteers doing work ranging from developing a strategic plan, to publishing of our quarterly newsletter, to sponsoring various social media projects, to reviewing class governing documents to administering a membership which numbers just over 600 among many other projects.

For the thankless job of reviewing some very, very dry documents, I want to thank the Championship Regulations Study Committee.

Patrick Cooper
Bob Duffy
Danielle Lawson
Gilmour Manuel
Dayna Nelder
Reine Larsson
Greg Mancusi-Ungaro
John Roberts



Richard Werdiger
Bill Widnall

Unfortunately, I was unable to give this dedicated group the time and attention they deserved this past year, but we will have a chance later in the agenda to hear some of what this group has been discussing and to weigh in about how we can further improve our regattas.

Established four or five years ago to recognize people who have significantly contributed to the Class and IOD racing around the world, the IOD Hall of Fame Committee has continued that effort under the able guidance of

John Henry (NEH), Chair
Jim Bishop, Jr (LIS)
Bob Duffy (BDA)
Gilmour Manuel (SCO)
Herb Motley (MHD)

Thank you to all of them.

For all of the technical guidance this group gives the Class, I would like to thank the members of the Technical Committee.

Peter Wickwire (CHE)
Lars Berntsson (SWE)
Chris Gould (NKT)
Craig Davis (BDA), Chair

As well as the Class Measurers:

Kevin Farrar (FIS)
Lars Berntsson (SWE)

Fair, competitive, one design racing falters without the dedication of people like this.

The Nominating Committee is tasked each year with the difficult job of finding new volunteers to administer the Class. Reliably they have prepared the slate of Officers for your consideration and I am very thankful that my name is not on that list. Thank you to:

Peter Rugg (FIS), Past President
Martin Rygh (TØN)
Sacha Simmons (BDA)
Colin Sykes (NKT)
David Rockefeller (NEH)

The Strategic Planning Committee continues to meet regularly exploring new ideas to grow interest in the class world-wide. One of the most successful products of their work

is the renewed interest in inter-fleet team racing events, which was kick-started last year with the resurrection of the Amorita Cup between LIS and Bermuda. Thank you to.

Reine Larsson (SWE)
Tormod Lie (FKD)
Rick Thompson (BDA & CHE)
John Roberts (NEH)
Luigi Galbiati (MYC)
Timmy Dittrich (MHD), Chair

The Communications Committee has been hard at work keeping the goings on of IOD sailors around the world front and center, through an expanded social media presence, sustained publication of the newsletter. Thank you to...

Shawn Mulrooney (CHE)
Bjorn Wahlstrom (SWE)
Roy Weedon (NKT)
Doug Witter (MYC)
Tormod Lie (FKD)
Luigi Galbiati (MYC)
Todd Murphy (MYC)
John Evans (LIS)

The following four members of this committee warrant special acknowledgement...

Rick Thompson (CHE & BDA)

RT's enthusiasm can always be counted on for content generation and marketing punch. I hope to improve my performance at Fishers this summer, so I can experience firsthand what Rick has help build in Chester. As a well-earned show of support, I ask all of you to vote in favor of the selection of Chester as the Site of the 2020 IOD World Championships.

Nicholas Schoeder (NEH)

NS continues to support the Class by volunteering his expertise and skill photographing regattas like the upcoming one here in Marblehead. I look forward as always to seeing him capture the special moments from this regatta.

Kate Jones (MYC) &

John Burnham (FIS), Chair & Communications Director

KJ and Communications Director, JB have taken over publishing the Class newsletter which was just released last night. For doing all of that work without me I am very grateful.

And a finally special thank you to the IODWCA Webmaster at CMB Creative who manages to keep the website running: Maura Blaney

The Fleets Committee was a new development this year, and while it may not yet have reached its peak, I believe that this group has the potential to improve the effectiveness of the organization by sharing information and experiences and building better relationships around the world. It is made up of all of the Fleet Captains around the world, so here is a special thank you to:

Ray DeSilva (BDA)
Rick Thompson (CHE)
Tormod Lie (FKD)
Jim Bishop, Jr (LIS)
Luigi Galbiati (MYC)
Greg Mancusi-Ungaro (MHD)
Geoff Verney (NKT)
John Roberts (NEH)
Paul Manning (SFO)
Reine Larsson (SWE)
John Bingham (STM)
Martin Rygh (TØN)

And representing the Executive Committee

Bill Dowling (NEH), Treasurer
Steve Madeira (NEH), Ex VP, Chair

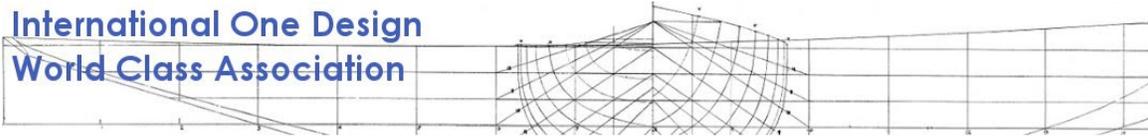
The Fleet reports have just been published online and do a great job of telling the story of all the Fleets. I encourage all of you to read through them.

There are two other individuals that have volunteered their time to the Class in special positions and they are Class Historian, Herb Motley (MHD) and World Sailing Representative, Peter Rugg (FIS).

Since last year's AGM, Peter has been working to shepherd the Amendment to World Sailing's Regulations that would reduce the number of IODs required for a sanctioned World Championship from 20 boats to 12, and allow the Class to continue running our World Championships with the blessing of World Sailing. Last year the vote on this amendment was tabled because of confusion over the language. That stumbling block has been removed with input from the WS Equipment and Classes Committee with the assistance from WS staff and Peter, and the amendment is expected to pass when the Council meets later this year. A big thank you to both of them.

Last, but certainly not least is a very special thank you to all the members of the Executive Committee. I have enjoyed working with all of you. These people regularly take time out their busy schedules - meeting at least one a month to further the interests of the Class.

Dayna Nelder (CHE) who agreed to step up last year and spent this year getting her feet wet with all the machinations of the IODWCA.



Bjorn Wahlstrom (SWE) who is always happy to join the call and despite the physical and language barriers is always helpful and engaged.

Craig Davis (BDA) who always brings his reasoned sensibility to our meetings and, as anyone who has had the pleasure of sailing in Bermuda knows, is fully committed to the Class.

Bill Dowling (NEH) has worked very hard to bring the Class into the 21st century improving both the book-keeping and reporting systems by migrating all of our accounting onto the Web. The proceeds from that work are visible in the year-end reports before you today.

Timmy Dittrich (MHD) has worked incredibly hard as Chair of the SPC and as Class Secretary and has been brave enough to dive right into the nettles of our membership software sending out meeting notices and meeting minutes with real enthusiasm. For his commitment to the class and his never-ending support I am indebted.

And finally, Steve Madeira (NEH). If the Class, at this meeting, votes the slate of officers below, which I strongly encourage them do, I am confident that I will be leaving the organization and the Executive Committee in very capable hands. I am sure that your good nature, sound judgement and patience will be as necessary for the Class as it will be beneficial. I have enjoyed working with all of you.

Thanks again to all of you.

Charlie Van Voorhis, President
IODWCA