

Shields Class Association Governing Board phone conference 11-11-14:

Members in attendance:

Com Crocker-President (fleet 1)

Wendy Goodwin- Secretary Marion (fleet 10)

Richard Robbins-Marion (fleet 10)

Betsy Yale-Newport & Nationals 2015(fleet 9)

Eric Anderson-Monterey (fleet 12)

Al Burnett Masons Island Mystic, CT (fleet 19)

Presidents Report: Com Crocker: Please send in your fleet reports for the Masthead ASAP. Over the last month Com has been working on the Masthead, he reports that the book is fantastic and that the order form is now on the website. We'll talk later in the meeting about the dates for the 2016 Nationals in California and the NOR's for the Great Lakes Ocean Challenge and for the 2015 Nationals in Newport.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Dayton: Jay was on a delivery to Bermuda and settled into a slip and checked in with Com & Wendy after the meeting.

Secretary's Report: Wendy Goodwin: my time has been spent working with Com & Bruce fact checking and finalizing the pages of the book, especially the last chapter about the Nationals. Rich Robbins helped get our e-blast sent to the membership and the order form is now on the website & in the inboxes of members. Almost 100 pre-orders have been received either in writing at the Nationals or electronically. We expect to ship around December 12 as Bruce has had some difficulty working with her design expert Natalia. I sent Jay recently a bill for the yearly US Sailing membership for the Shields class association. I'll talk more about the IRS once we get to that later in the discussion as progress has been good.

Measure's Report: Richard reports there are 2 issues the group is discussing: 1. What is a sanctioned race? 2. There was a question raised whether windward sheeting with the jib is class legal. Richard will try & organize a technical meeting. There was a question: Is the website/class rules up to date with the date change now in place for dues? The answer was yes.

New & Old Business:

1. **Shields Coffee Table Book:** Please place your order. The books are expected to be printed & distributed in early December.
2. **Masthead Newsletter:** Please send in fleet reports for the Masthead which will go to print shortly.
3. **IRS status report:** Wendy reports she has followed up with our IRS rep about our application for non tax status. She supplied documents that contained proof that we have been an association for 50 years. 1 document was signed acknowledging a law that passed 3 years ago. Our rep, Chitra, is on vacation and we should be on track to get our new status upon her return.
4. **Nominating committee for a 2015 slate:** We will need to assemble 3 members who are not part of the current Governing board to first approach the current officers to see if they will return & then fill any empty slots. Please go back to your fleets to report next meeting if you have a person who would be up for the nominating committee.
5. **2015 Nationals Newport Sept 8-12** Fresh back from her travels Betsy reported the 2015 Nationals committee met and Robbie gave the NOR to the PRO for review. They expect it will be ready next

week. There was a question of who to send it to. Send it to Richard Robbins for posting on the website. Betsy gets a gold star for sending in the Newport fleet report ahead of the deadline.

6. **2015 Ocean Great Lakes Challenge:** Eric reports he received some great help from Rick Hendee and Mike Schwartz. The dates for this event are May 1, 2 & 3 which is a Friday/Saturday/Sunday. These dates are firm. The concept will be that all boats will be borrowed. Locals racing must not be in their own boats. They are on hold with completing the NOR as they would like to have a rough head count, need to conclude on the entry fee & the cost for borrowed boat insurance. There was discussion about posting an announcement on the Shields Class website so competitors can plan ahead. One team has the financial backing of their local fleet through their dues in order to encourage participation. Eric reports that they are eager to host & this hopefully is a growing event where we can get the opportunity to race together and for this event familiarize many with west coast racing. There was discussion about creating a you-tube video on how to pack Shields for shipping.
7. **2016 Shields Nationals:** There was a question how many Shields in the Monterey fleet? Answer: 13 boats. They are working to grow the fleet by the time the Nationals are in Monterey.

New topics:

1. **2017 Nationals-**This is a call for proposals to arrive for hosting the 2017 Nationals. Possible hosts could be Edgartown or Mystic. The deadline to submit your proposal is February 1st. The Governing board has 90 days to give the fleets a decision.

The group agreed we should send out an e-blast about the Great Lakes Ocean Challenge and the 2017 proposal request.

Reminder:

2015 Great Lakes Ocean Challenge May 1, 2 & 3, 2015
2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: September 10-12, 2015
2016 Monterey, CA

We will most probably skip a meeting over December but will plan for one in January

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary