

Shields Class Association Governing Board phone conference 4-8-14:

Members in attendance:

Com Crocker- President Larchmont (fleet 1)
Wendy Goodwin- Secretary Marion (fleet 10)
Jay Dayton-Treasurer Oxford (fleet 21)
Richard Robbins-Marion (fleet 10)
Betsy Yale-Newport Hosting Nationals 2015(fleet9)
Eric Anderson-Monterey (fleet 12)
Mike Schwartz-Chicago (fleet 3)
Chris Wick-Mystic (fleet 19)

Presidents Report: Com Crocker: The key item for today is the last discussion before voting for 2016 Nationals venue. We will vote via e-mail. The minutes will be sent & then a separate e-mail request to vote. Com will speak more about the Nationals in Larchmont later in the meeting. He was surprised the value of the Nationals trophy of roughly \$20,000 which includes the platter, the base & surprisingly the engraving. The value seems high but due to the replacement including hand engraving.

Treasurers Report: We had 1 expense the silversmith to update the trophy/appraise. The association will support the Great Lakes Ocean Challenge by contributing \$1,500. There has been very little activity this month on the Treasury side of things.

INCOME: (Checking Balance 03/31/2014)	\$19,618.50
EXPENSES: Check to Silversmith, Inc. (trophy appraisal, etc.)	-\$ 127.62
Current Account Balance:	\$19,490.88

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Dayton, Class Treasurer,
Fleet #21

Jay Also reports for the Oxford fleet as they begin racing in 3 weeks and had a gathering to get ready for the season. Please contribute to the coffee table book. They will supply a history of their fleet. Peter Bailey will head that up. Please register for Nationals.

Secretary's Report: I have been included in conference calls regarding the Great Lakes Ocean Challenge & e-mails regarding the trophy values. I have a meeting with Richard Robbins to learn more about alternative options for hosting our membership/electronic payments.

Technical Committee Report: Richard Robbins reported on Kristian's behalf as he just became a new dad. They held a technical meeting last week and Richard received input from Mike Vellucci, Eric Anderson, Bill Berry and Bam Miller. Richard reports that they encouraged the CA fleet to pull the borrowed boats before nationals for washing & prep. They agreed there was enough resistance to not revisit the loose footed Main. There was discussion about alternative materials for toerail as Bam reports the cost to replce the teak is \$9,000. This includes seats & floorboards. Commonly the materials that get removed is the vinyl rubrail & the hull to deck seam is cosmetically corrected. Teak toerail & handrails are more commonly replaced rather than floorboards & seats. There was discussion whether the group would be in favor of removing the toerail but it is a safety help in keeping bodies in the boat. Wendy will give Richard some numbers tomorrow when they meet for toerail/rubrail/handrails. More discussion is needed whether the cost/weight for king starboard would be different. Thank you to Richard for picking up the ball & running with it.

New & Old Business:

1. **Masthead/Ledgens Regatta/Coffee Table Book:** Please send Com/HL Devore & Richard Slaughter your Masthead submissions. Please speak with your fleet captains & give them updates with what is going on in your fleet, new members, plans for the summer. Com will follow up with requests from the membership. Details on the Ledgens regatta are on the website. Please encourage attendance. The coffee table book needs content. Please send media stories/pictures. There is a google drive & an e-mail address to receive content.
2. **Great Lakes Ocean Challenge Cup:** Mike Schwartz outlined the Great Lakes Ocean Challenge which will be June 27-29. The draft NOR & SI just was sent to Mike & he will distribute. They have had great interest & look forward to hosting. There will be time in your borrowed boat Friday. Racing is Saturday & Sunday in the morning to give crews time to fly home. There was a question: who will qualify: fleets please discuss who will represent and determine who has time & \$ to go. The winner will host next year. The key to success is the attendance. The goal will be that the fleet goes back to their local race course with a buzz. Larchmont & Monterey will attend. Marion & Mysic will try but has conflicts. Newport has a conflict as well.
3. **National Trophy appraisal**-see presidents report above
4. **Nationals 2016**-Com supplied some commentary: Lots of time & energy was involved with submitting entries to host. He loves the CA proposal for what it means for the growth and direction of the class. We want this decision to encourage growth of the host fleet-he is a bit worried of the timing. If it's too soon & the borrowed boats aren't up to the challenge it may hurt the fleet/class. There would be a big trip across the country for those who will transport their boats. The next 2 Nationals should build momentum so hopefully the numbers won't be drastically lower than 2015. Com encouraged the hosting of Seawanhaka & hosting didn't help them achieve their goal of growth. We ask what is best for the association & what's best for the classes. Going west is an investment in that particular fleet. Richard reports that he agrees with Com's comments. He is impressed with the fleet 12's commitment to upcoming events. Edgartown is not participating, but perhaps they will show some initiative in the BBR and Larchmont Nationals. There was discussion if CA hosted would they consider October as opposed to Sept? They answered yes. That is the bet weather so would plan for a mid October event. We will send an e-mail request for a vote & we have 1 week to reply.

2014 Shields Nationals-Larchmont, NY: Note that the sooner you sign up, the more times you are entered to win door prizes. Each time another entry is received, your sail number will be entered to win again. There will be more notifications as the even gets closer. Please encourage participation & sign up to attend.

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI:

2016 Shields Nationals- vote via e-mail after the meeting

Reminder:

2014 Shields Nationals-Larchmont, NY: Wednesday Sept 10, 2014 to Saturday Sept 13, 2014

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: September 10-12, 2015

2016 Monterey, CA or Edgartown, MA-we will report when the votes are in.

Our next conference call is: **Tuesday May 13 8PM** eastern time

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary