

Shields Class Association Governing Board phone conference 6-11-13:

Members present:

Richard Robbins-Marion & Tech Committee
Rick Hendee-Indian Harbor
Andy Segal-Newport
Peter Bailey-Oxford
Garth Hobson-Monterey
Rick Gibson-N Mass Bay

Mike Schwartz-Chicago & President
Wendy Goodwin-Marion & Secretary
Betsy Yale-Newport
Stephen Potter-Edgartown
Roland Schultz-Larchmont

There was a motion made & seconded to waive the reading of the minutes from the last meeting. Mike would like to make sure an e-blast goes out to the membership 7 days after this meeting to keep the momentum going. Peter & Mike will put that together.

Treasurers Report:

Fred is at a retirement party & can't attend tonight's meeting. He has received the \$140 invoice from Sailing World; so that is the only treasury activity to report. There have been no dues received since my last report. He hopes the meeting is productive and urges the fleets to submit their dues. Dues notices should go out so payments can be sent to Fred by August 1st.

Secretary's Report:

I urge all fleet treasurers to send dues notices and get the current membership information into me on or before August 1. A new membership form is now on the website www.shieldsclass.com/join/index.php. I hope this form will also be printed in the next Masthead. When this form was shared in the last e-blast we had one response from VT, so an owner signed up for membership. The class will invoice him for his dues. See below regarding Regatta Network & Nominating Committee details.

Fleet reports:

Fleet 1 Larchmont Roland Schultz Their sailing season started last week-9 boats in attendance. They also started a Wednesday night series without spinnakers & are getting 6 boats in attendance-this is a great & informal series with folks like H.L. sailing with his kids etc. They have had some bad weather and a district regatta with Seawanaka was postponed but they will try & reschedule for the first weekend of race week. 3 Shields are registered for the Nationals in Oxford & 4 more will eventually sign up.

Fleet 2 Indian Harbor- Rick Hendee The season started slow due to bad weather & the Ideal 18's took over their dry sailing spot near the hoist but the boats are in the water now & ready to race.

Fleet 3 Chicago- Mike Schwartz they are sending 2 possibly 3 boats to Nationals.

Fleet 4 N Mass Bay-Rick Gibson The season is off to a slow start & they continue to look for other Shields in the area to join them. They will start racing in July.

Fleet 8 Edgartown-Stephen Potter reports that they begin racing the 1st weekend in July & move right into Edgartown regatta. They found a buyer for Roland Vandemer's Shields to keep it within their fleet. The buyers were crew from other boats.

Fleet 9 Newport- Betsy Yale Their first race of the season was cancelled but they are getting 23-30 boats on the line starting June 6. The Newport fleet will send their dues to Fred this week. They have been trying to hold a non spinnaker series & the weekends showed low attendance so they are trying Friday evenings. They have a social planned for July 3.

Regarding Nationals 2015 in Newport: They have met with the current Commodore & the person who will be Commodore in 2015 to plan. Ronnie Benjamin will be the regatta chair. Regarding dates: There are events scheduled for early September which pushes back the Nationals until September 23-27. This would assure the best race management & the full support of the club. Richard Robbins encouraged the event be held on a Fri/Sat/Sun as crew are more likely to be available as they only need to take 1 day off from work. There was discussion as a Thurs/Fri/Sat event assures an awards dinner with time to haul out & dress up. There are pros & cons to both. The banquet can be on the Saturday night with awards in T-shirts with racing occurring on Fri/Sat/Sun. Away boats can also attend the Wednesday night race as a practice race. Sponsorship was discussed & with the possibility of 50 boats attending it would reduce the entry fee substantially. Mike has had a hard time getting in touch with Jan so Andy & Betsy will rein him in & get him to contact Mike. Mike asked Jan to help with sponsorship for Oxford but nothing has been done. It was noted that Sponsorship must be done within the parameters set by each host club. There was discussion about locking in the date on or around September 23. There was discussion about loaner boats as each host must provide a loaner for each visiting fleet. This usually translates to only needing 1 or 2 boats as competitors will trailer. If you run out of loaner boats, reach out to neighboring fleets.

Fleet 10 Marion-Wendy reports we are racing Thursday evenings with spinnakers & Saturday as well. We have lots of races planned over the next 3 months and some specialty races as well. We look forward to attending Nationals in Oxford.

Fleet 12 Monterey-Garth reports they would like to make a pitch to host Nationals in 2016 and asked when they should submit their application. Richard recommended submitting in the fall once we have our new slate of officers in place. They discussed using the form in the blue book on line. The Monterey fleet is sailing & appears to be the only fleet with great weather at the moment.

Fleet 21 Oxford Peter Bailey reports their late spring series just ended and made up for bad weather toward the end of the series. There were 5/6 boats racing. They have a summer series which will start in July.

Nationals 2013 in Oxford: The Sailing Instructions are almost done. The Race Committee team has been running the local races so they will become familiar with the Shields by the time we are racing in September. They will have a link on the website early July for ordering regatta gear. The early registration date is June 30. They asked if the start time could be moved from 11 to 10:30 for better flexibility-there were no objections. They would like to feed everyone before the annual meeting as the meeting ran late last time they hosted. Richard feels the meeting should not run as long as it did last time-we only need to vote in the new officers. The Oxford fleet will e-mail reminders to register on the 15th & the 22nd. Larchmont has already registered 3 boats & Oxford 11. Chicago wants a loaner. Approx. 30 boats are expected to attend. Peter will touch base with Masons Island who were sending 2 or 3 boats but were unaccounted for in this meeting. 33 boats we are guessing will attend.

New & Old Business:

Nominating Committee: Wendy has been getting a little nervous about who will replace Richard, Mike & Fred on the Governing Board so if you are asked to serve, please consider it. Our Nominating committee is H.L. Devore, Robin Monk & Bill Berry.

Great Lakes Challenge: Mike will put together a conference call for better planning

Masthead: There was discussion whether we can afford to print the fall masthead & we all agreed this issue will be printed as the costs are low.

Trophies: Roland reports the 3 perpetual trophies are in Larchmont & they will assure they will arrive in Oxford. The take a bow is with George Gardner of the Marion fleet & George will make sure the bow gets to Oxford. George can be reached at george.gardner3@gmail.com. Wendy will assure the Golden stern makes it to Oxford. Question: What are the Larchmont Nationals Dates?? Answer: Wed Sept 10, 2014 to Saturday Sept 13, 2014

Technical Committee: Richard reports no meetings were held, no issues. Should members have questions, please inquire.

Regatta Network: Recently I contacted US Sailing's Regatta Network to get an updated price on their hosting our association membership. It would not include any regatta running, just simply managing our membership contacts & allowing owners to pay dues with credit cards on line. If you want to see a demonstration of how the Regatta Network program works go to www.yachtclubdemo.com. The cost for this is \$240 per year and the treasurer would just need to set up a PayPal Account on behalf of the Shields Class.

Reminder:

2013 Shields Nationals-Oxford, MD: Thursday Sept 26-Saturday Sept 18, 2013

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

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: September 23-27 2015

Another phone conference call was not scheduled.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary