

Shields Class Association – Meeting Minutes

November 11th, 2025

Held Via Google Meet

Attending: Jon Krumeich, Wesley Bemus, Ken Dyett, Jay Dayton, Gary Ropski, Ted Slee, Mike Toppa, Jerry Stratton, Steve Mettler, Scott Brubaker, Richard Robbins, Ron Oard, Dan Goodwin.

Call to Order: 8:02 PM Jon Krumeich.

Treasurer's Report: Treas. Dayton reports the Shields Class Association balance stands at \$12,349.76 following the payment of \$4,247 for 6-mo of insurance premium expenses.

Minutes: Previous meeting minutes were accepted without reading or questions.

Secretary's Report: No new business raised.

President's Report: Pres. Krumeich raised the previous discussions which were had regarding the crew makeup and status of 249 *Robin* at the 2025 Nationals. While the class website identified Ned Neilsen as the winner - the winning skipper was actually Adrian Van Der Wal. Adrian was a Group 3 sailor at the time of the regatta and had not paid his national dues at the time of the event, an issue which arose in the reshuffle of the crew of 249 due to a family illness. This oversight has since been rectified and the trophy recipients at the Nationals have been clarified on the class website.

Compliance forms, and waivers, were discussed in the context both of overall adherence but more specifically to the question of Group 3 sailors ensuring that they are complying with class rules for participation in the National Regatta. Additional attention to the compliance form was identified as an issue both for preemptive work at the class level but also at the regatta level in order to underscore that compliance forms receive due scrutiny by the Organizing Authority when they are submitted. Future use of waivers and the overall level of awareness for their applicability was raised and determined to potentially need refinement.

The technical committee agreed to review the compliance form for usability and, potentially, submit a refined document for discussion at a future class meeting.

Old Business: The Mainsheet winter edition was discussed. Content from the EYC Nationals, Fleets, OGLC, and technical discussions were all identified as content planned for the next publication – with an expected circulation date of late-Dec or early-Jan.

The establishment of a Shields Fleet in Boothbay was again raised, with participation from Peter Neidhart and Bob Scribner representing #152, with #150 additionally being in the region. Ken Dyett identified that a target of 3 boats was the threshold for designation as a fleet and all agreed to continue to support Boothbay in this effort.

New Business: To facilitate decision-making around issues like Fleet establishment, the assembled group expressed a desire to establish an Executive Board for national activities. Richard Robbins motioned (second by Pres. Krumeich) to establish an exec. board comprised on Pres. Krumeich, Sec. Bemus, and Fmr. Pres. Mettler – the motion passed.

Technical Committee: No report to offer.

Shields Class Foundation: A discussion was held around the status of the Foundation fleet and the planned distribution of boats for 2026 – including boats for Marion, California, and Larchmont. A general call was made for donations of either spare equipment or funds in order to support the ongoing upkeep of boats which may then be sold to generate additional revenue for the foundation.

OGLC 2026: The Ocean Great Lakes Challenge is being held by the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club on May 29-31. Jerry Stratton and Robert Scribner reported on planning for the events. Jim Wirtz of 96 *October* is event chair along with Dick Clark as PRO. The fleet has grown in Monterey to now encompass 12 boats, and they are excited to host the OGLC in 2026.

Future hosts for the event were discussed. Oxford expressed a general interest in hosting the 2027 edition of the event, as they feel they are overdue. Mystic was identified as having potential, but the availability of loaner boats was identified as potentially being an issue.

Nationals 2026: Jay Daton presented an update on the planning for the 2026 Nationals to be held by Tred Avon Yacht Club in Oxford Maryland September 23rd to 26th. A notice of race is expected in the near future and registration will be opened soon after.

Nationals 2027: Ted Slee gave a brief update on planning for this regatta with long-range forecasting that it will be after Labor Day.

Future National regattalocations were briefly discussed, and a general plan for Marion and Monterey to determine which order they would prefer to go in for '28/'29 was raised. Sec. Bemus emphasized that Fleet 1/Larchmont would like to host the 2030 event, going out of regular rotation, to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the club's founding.

Adjourned: 9:04 PM by Jon Krumeich.

Submitted: Wesley Bemus, Secretary