

# Shields Class Association – Meeting Minutes

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Held Via Google Meet

Attending: Jon Krumeich, Eric Anderson, Jay Dayton, Jerry Stratton, John Gronberg, Richard Robbins, Ronald Oard, Scott Brubaker, Ted Slee, Robert Scribner, Peter Neidhardt, Ken Dyett, Wesley Bemus.

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Call to Order: 8:01 PM Jon Krumeich.

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

Treasurer's Report: Treas. Dayton reports the Shields Class Association balance stands at \$16,596.76 following an anticipated transfer from the Shields Foundation Account.

Secretary's Report: Sec. Bemus introduced himself as the newly elected secretary.

President's Report: Pres. Krumeich introduced himself following his election at the September Nationals. The Nationals were discussed and the outcomes, as well as some early lessons learned, were raised including around the realities of racing old boats in stiffer breeze and what decisions, or class rule changes, may be best considered in order to refine the National regatta in the future. These discussions included defining wind limits, the use of a non-spinnaker flag, and heavy air spinnakers.

Additional discussion emerged around confusion as to who was present on the winning boat, 249 *Robin*, at the 2025 Nationals. The National Title, and other perpetual awards, were presented to the owner, Ned Nielsen, who was not present onboard during the regatta. Jon indicated that he would make additional inquiries and fact finding.

Jon then raised the topic of the Shields Masthead newsletter, which had previously been a printed publication distributed at a 2x annual rate, and expressed a desire to see this resurrected for future years. Eric Anderson, who was previously responsible for this process, shared his insights regarding the costs of producing and mailing the printed version which he identified as costing \$5,000/yr. The eMasthead has faded in frequency due to difficulties surrounding compelling contribution from the various fleets or contributors.

Moving forward, consensus emerged around making a push to re-publish an eMasthead twice per year moving forward. Content deadlines for submission are to be Mid-May and Mid-December, beginning in December 2025.

Old Business: Eric presented an update from the Shields Class Foundation and highlighted their recent activities with 3 boats participating in the Nationals and the addition of boat number 210 to their ranks. A need for winter covers was raised, along with a call for additional donations to the foundation.

OGLC 2026: The Ocean Great Lakes Challenge is being held by the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club on May 30-31. Jerry Stratton and Robert Scribner reported on planning for the events. Jim Wertz of 96 *October* is event chair along with Dick Clark as PRO. The fleet has grown in Monterey, and they are excited to host the OGLC in 2025.

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 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. He highlighted the all-female crew of 133 from this past season and noted their excitement to host the regatta. Fleet 9 is expressing interest in towing their boats to the event and an event website should be forthcoming.

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

New Business: Robert Scribner and Peter Neidhardt, representing the owners of 2 Shields in Boothbay Maine, presented on their fledgling Fleet and expressed their desire to continue to grow and become increasingly organized in the coming years. Members and officers on the call expressed their willingness to support this mission, including with Foundation assets.

Adjourned: 8:59 PM by Jon Krumeich.

Submitted: Wesley Bemus, Secretary