

Minutes
of the
Board of Governors
of the
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

APRIL 3, 1993

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Ramada, Norwich, Connecticut on April 3, 1993. Commodore van Dyke presided. Other Governors present were:

Allen N. Anderson	Peter W. McFadden
W. Frank Bohlen	Ernest R. Messer, Jr.
William G. Gunther	Neal H. O'Connell
F B. George Hohenstein	Norman E. Rabe
D. Richard Magovern, DMD	Richard H. Roberts
H. Wes Maxwell	James B. Slimmon, Jr.

Present by invitation were:

William L. Ames	Robert B. Nickerson
Milan T. Bartek	Donald P. Robinson
Donald C. Davis	Nicholas Staub, II

Absent were:

J. Christopher Field	Rodney S. Johnstone
Chester B. Humphrey, MD	John H. Lockwood

The meeting was called to order at 1536.

The minutes of the previous January 15, 1993 meeting were VOTED approved with the correction of the name of resigned member Gifford Warner from Gifford Warren.

Vice Commodore McFadden reported that attendance at the Annual Dinner will be down about 10% to 201.

Rear Commodore Gunther indicated that trophies are engraved and ready for presentation. The Board suggestions concerning the Donovan Trophy were acceptable to Peter Brinckerhoff and he is proceeding with obtaining a trophy. The trophy wording is to be put in the Members Book for 1993 with the trophy first awarded for the 1993 season in 1994. As it will be awarded for combined results in C-1 and C-2, it will be necessary to modify the wording for the Nor'easter Trophy as well.

The Board stood for a moment of silent prayer as the Secretary read the name of the following member who was reported as having died since the last Board meeting:

Russell D. Reddig

The following resignations were VOTED accepted with regret:

Jonathan F. Bushnell	Richard E. Nickerson
Gary T. Griffin	Frank L. Wadsworth
Mark Kannischer	

With the reinstatement of Anthony A. Cooper membership is at 521.

The application for reinstatement of John A. Serrie, who had resigned in good standing, was VOTED approved.

Treasurer Messer submitted a written report which is attached to these minutes. The report was a final for the year as the Shelter Island bill was recently resolved. With everyone holding the line on expenses and avoidance of charter fees, we have a surplus for 1992 of over \$7,000. This, together with prior surplus, gave us about \$18,000 in the treasury at the end of the 1992 fiscal year. The Treasurer noted that when we are not paying charter fees for a committee boat, the race fees are self supporting except for the cost of printing and mailing.

Income from Sportsline so far has been \$369. This is significantly more profit than we were generating in the past when we were doing it ourselves.

Historian Ames indicated that 1992 history was ready to go to the archives.

Race Secretary Roberts was absent but had given Historian Ames information in addition to the guest lists mailed to the Board. It was agreed that it was appropriate that the Race Secretary gave a few days leeway for two incomplete applications. However, Dr. Richard A. Carlton's application is still incomplete in spite of efforts of the Race Secretary to contact the proposer. It was VOTED to approve the guest list submitted by the Race Secretary with the exception of Dr. Richard A. Carlton. (Secy note: Recently he was added back on the list to correct an error.)

The guest list submitted by the Membership Chairman through the Race Secretary garnered much discussion. It was noted that it was in reality a separate document. It appears to require a real stretch of the precedent setting decision of 1/13/78 to include an individual who has raced two series and has not yet been posted on the guest list from the Membership chairman. This is true even if they will be posted before or with the first notice. However, we have done this a number of times in the past when an applicant has submitted a reasonable package. It appeared that the Board agreed with the approach of the Membership Committee in allowing individuals in the membership process who have a reasonable package to continue to receive guest invitations. (Secretary's comment: As a precedent setting decision is in conflict with this practice we should clean this up at the next meeting)

The real question was not one of technicalities but about approving an invitation for William F. Zimmerli. It was agreed to vote on an invitation for Mr. Zimmerli separately. The Membership Chairman's guest list was then expanded to include Robert D. Weinstein, CAL 39, Deep River, CT. This expanded list (with Weinstein but without Zimmerli) was VOTED approved.

The Board separately VOTED (9 to 3) not to approve a guest invitation for William F. Zimmerli.

Clerk Magovern reported that all the proper papers required for our incorporation in the State of Massachusetts have been signed today and will be sent in shortly.

Measurer Rabe reviewed several outstanding issues. First, he commented on category IV requirements for heavy weather jibs and reefing main sails for class boats whose classes do not require these. We will further discuss this in October. He anticipates that we may have to handle this on a protest basis and we should address it.

Second, some boats have an outrigger pole for a spinnaker pole which is in conflict with USSA rules for Spinnaker poles. Boats so equipped have sailed in major yachting events and as a Measurer he would be able to handle it. Again we will want to discuss this as it may come up as a protest.

Commodore van Dyke put forth a recommendation from Long Range Race Planning Committee Chairman Johnstone that the Cruising Canvass Class be split in two divisions but start both at the same time. It was commented that this seemed to require not much more than another set of trophies. There was some discussion that this only addresses part of the problem. The hot boat and crew does not mix well with the intent of providing for a group of largely oldsters and cruising boats and this is the real problem. It was VOTED that the Cruising Canvass Class be split in two as recommended for the 1993 and 1994 series and then reviewed. Further, that the Race Committee is to work out the details of implementation.

Race Committee Chairman Maxwell noted that Freedom is only available for the Spring Series and we need a Committee Boat for the Fall. Henry duPont indicated that he would let us know if Nor'easter will not be available. However, we have been unable to contact him for confirmation.

Membership Committee Chairman Bohlen reported that 20 applicants were in the pipeline. 18 of these will be posted shortly.

Measurement Rule Committee Chairman Robinson commented that we continue to attract attention. Chesapeake Bay is looking at what we do to try and emulate our series.

Classification Committee Chairman Davis indicated that no report was necessary.

Protest Committee Chairman Field was absent.

Entertainment Committee Chairman Bartek commented that an adjustment was made by Shelter Island to their party bill and 1992 closed out. Shelter Island remains much more expensive than Block Island. Walter Carucci, the current Commodore of Shelter Island, is on the Membership Guest List.

Shelter Liaison Committee Chairman Lockwood was absent.

Public Relations Committee Chairman Nickerson reported that he managed to stop the Ramada from raising the Off Soundings Club burgee upside down today. He will be doing the usual publicity in 1993 with newspapers and other publications.

Block Island Liaison Chairman Staub reported that Block Island is looking forward to our Spring Series. Great Salt Pond will not be a Federal discharge area before July.

Fleet Surgeon Humphrey was absent and there was no report. However, Commodore van Dyke read Chet's letter of resignation after 10 years as Fleet Surgeon. The board expressed its appreciation for the very fine work he has done to get us organized, stocked and manned over the years.

Long Range Race Planning Committee Chairman Johnstone was absent and his written report was acted upon earlier in the meeting.

Nominating Committee Chairman Hohenstein reported that the Committee had a slate for the Annual meeting.

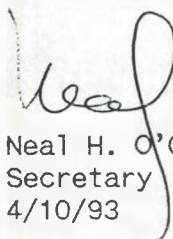
Board Members Slimmon and Anderson reported that some detailed work for analysis of time on time has been completed and a report will be ready for the next meeting. We are doing this review in response to input from our members. Further, this activity seems appropriate as they feel we should be a leader in improvements when they are workable and can be practically implemented.

Alternative penalties were discussed. The interest seems to be from the "C" Classes. The concern is that we are not receiving protests in reasonable proportion to the incidents observed on the course. The thought is that skippers are reluctant to protest as a protest ruins party time, and a DSQ or WD ruins a weekend. An alternative penalty would allow an individual to continue to participate and usually not take up party time. The 720 rule is not enough of a penalty for small boats in our fleet and would often be awkward and maybe unsafe to execute. Some time adjustment such as 20% of elapsed time or a flat 30 minutes as we apply now to early starters who do not restart seems appropriate. The concept was tabled for a report and recommendation at the October meeting.

Board member Slimmon reported on insurance. Early this year we were notified by US Sailing that we had to agree to differential entry fees for our races before they would renew our "on the water" Yachting Liability policy of 10 million dollars. We looked at our current general liability policy of 1 million plus a 2 million excess rider (3 million total) and came to the conclusion that our greatest liability was on land with the after race parties and not on the water. It appears that we would be best served by dropping the US Sailing "on the water" policy and use the premium to increase our general liability policy limits to 4 million dollars (cost about \$1000). It was VOTED to increase our general liability policy to 4 million dollars and not renew our US Sailing Yachting Liability policy.

It was suggested that each Board Member and Committee Chairman look to his own liability coverage as far as directors and officers coverage is concerned. Connecticut laws provide a great deal of relief to a non profit organization such as ours which is why we do not carry such coverage.

There being no further business it was VOTED to adjourn at 1741.



Neal H. O'Connell
Secretary
4/10/93