

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY
21 Romagna Rd.
Niantic, CT 06357

Minutes of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club

O (860) 739-3322
H (860) 739-7202
H (860) 739-5363

October 25, 2003
Munson Room, White Library

The meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Munson Room in the White Library on October 25, 2003. Commodore Brooks presided.

The following members were present: Commodore John Brooks, Vice Commodore Neal S. O'Connell, Rear Commodore Robert Geary, Clerk David Nickerson, Secretary Norm Peck, Treasurer Ron Breault, Race Secretary Steve Purdy, Race Committee Chairman Charles Chorlton, Measurer Norm Rabe, Past Commodore Wes Maxwell, Membership Committee Robert Edmands, Protest Committee Walter Pratt, Entertainment Committee Sarah Porter, Past Commodore Frank Bohlen LRRP.

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Commodore Brooks. The minutes of the April 5, 2003 meeting were duly approved with one correction; Page 2, last paragraph David Nickerson in place of Bob.

Treasurer's report given by Ron Breault.

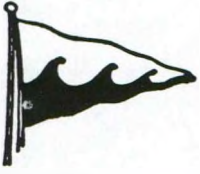
The Commodore asked of any recent loss of members. The Treasurer reported of four unpaid members. The Treasurer passed out the updated September 30th Financial Report and Budget as well as the projected year end statement. Copies made part of these minutes.

The members that have not paid are Allen Berrier of Milford, James Brown of Waterford, Richard Starr of Duxbury, MA and John English of Guilford. John English to be contacted by the Commodore. Motion duly made and adopted to drop Berrier, Brown and Starr from membership for non paid dues.

Commodore complimented the past and current Treasurer for the smooth transition of position and managing the funds within the budget.

The Treasurer was asked if he expected any surprises between now and the end of the year. He did not expect anything.

Secretary pointed out that the change of format of the Membership Booklet and Race Instructions had saved 1200+ dollars. The Race Secretary pointed out that mail costs were less and that he will be supplying his CD for the printers the same as the membership booklet saving more money. It was duly moved and approved to accept the Treasurer's report as discussed.



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Vice Commodore O'Connell report regarding Dyer Dow, Pictures and Annual Meeting made part of these minutes.

It was pointed out that a "stand up" cocktail party and a sit down dinner were nearly the same price and most sit down anyway.

Past Commodore Maxwell gave a historic review of annual dinner locations and participants including a reminder of the reasons for a spring dinner. Members coming from out of the area to work on boats etc.

Maxwell planted an idea of having the annual dinner in the fall nearer the fall racing while the events were still in the minds of the participants. Concern was expressed on the return and engraving of the trophies. Past Commodore Bohlen pointed out the lateness of the sailing into the fall which might attract more attendance. The by-laws require February, March or April as annual meeting date which could be amended. Dyer Dow Derby could be date if stabilized.

Commodore asked the Board Members to bring these subjects to the table at the January meeting. Suggested taking pictures of the trophies for the website. Secretary will try.

Rear Commodore Geary asked for comments about the blue plates trophies. Various suggestions were offered including glasses, cups and other drinking hardware. The Commodore brought up an idea of recognizing members that have been members for a long time maybe fifty years if any or perhaps as low as thirty five years. Could also be limited to active participants. A small medallion or similar item could be awarded at an annual meeting and perhaps increase attendance.

It was pointed out that Off Soundings is a racing club not a cruising club and that recognizing active racers might be more appropriate and go as low as thirty years of active racing.

The Commodore and Past Commodore Bohlen volunteered to bring a plan into the January meeting.

Secretary presented a letter from John Lockwood asking the Board to reinstate Patrick O'Neil. It was duly moved and approved to table the request pending a letter from Mr. O'Neil requesting reinstatement and the dates of resignation and original membership.



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The Commodore brought attention to the articles and pictures contained in the news media this fall.

Race Secretary reported that after receiving the Commodore's compliments for the new format of the Race Notice Instructions and Yearbook, the Race Secretary spoke of more advances in the method of supplying information to our printers, which he hopes will save more money and time. He also is attempting to smooth out and reduce some information in the Race Booklet.

He reported that 95% of the race information was handled by email this year. He estimated less than ten phone calls with questions. The final results were ready and on the internet within one week.

When reviewing the Event Schedule for 04-05 the Race Secretary was concerned that Greenport has a Fall Maritime Festival which may be Sept 17-18 the same dates as our event.

We recommended we talk to Jamie Mills, one of the town fathers of Greenport. We didn't seem to think there was a conflict.

Race Secretary brought to our attention that the Multi Hull entries do not carry all of the Off Soundings required safety equipment. They have their own requirements which he will get and present for our review.

Guest entries requesting approval for a guest to be able to skipper. Race Secretary declined but looks for future requests.

Race Secretary talked with Bob Edmands about the possibility of transferring the guest entries to the Membership Committee. The reasons are to reduce and spread the load on the Race Secretary and allow the Membership Committee to have first hand contact with possible full membership. Bob Edmands agreed this could be done. The question was asked the Race Secretary if he accepted email for race entries. Race Secretary replied that all entries were on hard copies and that no race application were supplied over email. This leads to a question for the Membership Chairman whether an email seconding or supporting a response was acceptable. It was agreed that this would be at the discretion of the Membership Chairman. Hard Copy in a package is the preferred method.

Race Secretary proposes a new position of Scoring Chairman. He pointed out that presently four people are involved in the scoring process; Race Secretary, Race Committee Chairman, Measurer and Rear Commodore.



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The position of the Scoring Committee or Chairman would be responsible for the staffing of scorers on the Commodore's boat, produce the website results for ECSA and Multi Hull Association, keep the records without PE and results without PE for the perpetual trophy records. Race Secretary would replace the Classification Committee with the new Scoring Committee.

The Commodore introduced a letter from Peter Canning offering his resignation as Chairman of the Classification Committee because of his employment work load. Motion duly moved and approved that a Scoring Committee be substituted in place of the Classification Committee (Refer to major decisions for duties). The full report of the Race Secretary is made part of these minutes.

Clerk Dave Nickerson brought to the attention of the Board his concern about the lack of respect of the racing rules. His observation of many fouls that occur without any action of protest or the taking of the obligated penalties. He suggested we offer the alternate penalty of a 360 or 720 in addition to the current rules. Various comments were made regarding the contrast in turning abilities of various boat entered in our event. Reference was made that current boats don't sit in the water as deeply as 30-50 years ago making it easier to do turns.

Norm Rabe pointed out that we discourage protests and we can't have it both ways. Nickerson thought a 720 or 360 would keep participants away from the table especially a 360 "Do it and get it over with". Of all the safety violations that the members have seen the Race Chairman has only 1 instance of the yellow flag being flown.

After considerable input into the Off Soundings philosophy of protesting, the Commodore directed the members to bring to the January meeting as much information on other regattas, AE, BI Race Week.

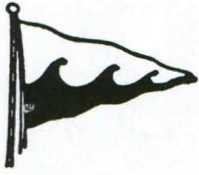
Clerk Dave Nickerson reported the he found and did file the Mass Corp Report electronically this year.

Measurer Norm Rabe submitted his report which is made part of these minutes. ✓

In addition he recommended we revisit the Class B diminishing entry situation. There is some indication that the B owners expect to be reassigned.

Race Committee-No Report

Commodore complimented the Race Committee on a great job conducting the Fall Event.



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Membership Chairman Robert Edmands reported this is the quite time of year but does have four applications in the pipe line.

Protest Chairman Walter Pratt- No Report

Entertainment Committee reported things on Block Island under control, Sarah will see that the tent used for race week is made available to us.

Greenport is still up in the air and as for as the new Municipal Marine Center they are not sure if it will be ready and a special permit from the town or state is required to serve liquor. Maybe it's best to commit to Townsends another year.

More concern with the conflict with the Maritime event at Greenport led to various suggestions and alternatives.

Past Commodore Maxwell to communicate with Greenport officials to see if there is a conflict with the Maritime event and whether the new Marine Center will be ready. If there is a conflict the Commodore will call a special meeting to act on the problem.

Public Relations Committee not present.

Fleet Surgeon not present.

Past Commodore Bohlen – Long Range planning nothing to report.

Preliminary approval of the 2005 event subject to annual meeting vote. Motion duly moved and approved. Copy attached.

The Commodore would like to renew the winter lunch meeting if he can find volunteers at the various locations. He hoped to encourage some input from members regarding venues, rules and activities on the race course.

Motion duly made and accepted that dues remain the same as last year.

A discussion as to the amount of money to be kept in the "Rainy Day Fund" historically it has been around \$18,000 currently near \$17,000. It was pointed out that if we had to charter a committee boat the cost would range from \$7-\$15,000 for the three days. The treasurer asked for direction in the distribution of the \$1500 called donations.



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He was directed to draw two checks, one to Film and Video another to the Library at the Mystic Seaport.

Past Commodore Maxwell reminded us that it may be time to film an event again and the it would require some funds.

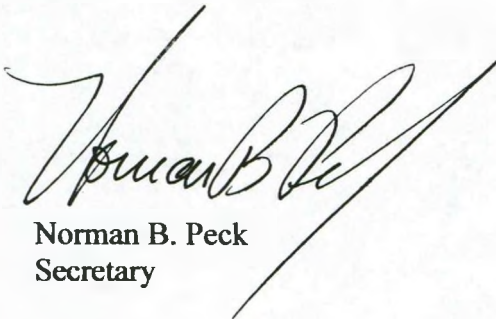
The treasurer pointed out that the reserve account or "Rainy Day" fund really is more than \$17,000. It is the total of \$17,100 and the operating account which is currently nearly \$14,000. He suggested moving \$5,000 to the Fidelity account.

The treasurer asked for approval to transferring the trustees of our Fidelity account to Fleet Quick & Reily. The intention is to create linked accounts for transfer simplicity. Motion duly made and approved to move money from Fidelity to Fleet. Copy of resolution made part of these minutes.

Commodore suggested encouraging non racing, cruising or power boat members to attend the events.

Also reminds us of the upcoming 75th anniversary.

Motion made and approved to adjourn.



Norman B. Peck
Secretary



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

RON BREault, Treasurer
162 Four Mile River Road
Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371

(860) 434-8298
RonBreault@cs.com

To: Board of Governors, Officers and Committee Chairs

October 19, 2003

Re: Proposed 2004 Budget

Enclosed are two spreadsheets, one a historical overview of our budgets from 1998 to a 2004 draft, the other an analysis of our estimated 2003 income and expenses compared to both the 2003 budget and the draft 2004 budget. The draft 2004 budget is based upon the assumption of no changes in dues structure, entry fees or party fees. A short summary follows:

Our estimated 2003 income of \$58,669 will be very nearly on our budget of \$58,962. Our estimated expenses of \$54,264 will be below our budget of \$58,962, generating an estimated overall surplus of \$4405. Generally lower printing and mailing costs, lower race management costs and higher royalties contributed significantly to the surplus more than offsetting negative impacts from lower membership dues and higher trophy costs.

The proposed 2004 budget assumes the same overall level of participation at the Spring and Fall regattas, a slight net decrease in membership (7) and spending levels at the 2003 levels except where specific savings are identified (i.e. Fall Trophies where the expenses for both '02 and '03 were incurred in '03.) The proposed 2004 budget projects a surplus of \$3805, which is shown as Misc (undesignated) expense.

Among other issues the Board may wish to review is sustaining membership levels and the possibility of lower launch and party costs at Greenport if proposed new berthing facilities become available.

I don't believe there is any necessity to approve a 2004 budget at this time but, as the 2004 dues notices will be mailed in late December, we do not meet again until 2004 and the Draft 2004 Budget indicates a reasonable surplus, I recommend that the Board approve, at the October 25th meeting, a 2004 dues structure with no changes from the 2003 dues structure.

Respectfully Submitted

Ron Breault

OSC
Draft 2004 budget
Revised October 25, 2003

10/28/2003

Budget Category	2003 Income			2004 Income Draft	2003 Expense			2004 Expenses Draft	Comments 03 and 04
	FY Budget	9/30 YTD	12/31/2003		FY Budget	9/30 YTD	12/31/2003		
		Actual	Estimate			Actual	Estimate		
Annual Dinner Meeting	4000.00	3564.00	3564.00	3500.00	5000.00	4239.61	4239.61	4500.00	\$1000 subsidy
Membership Dues	24444.00	23868.00	23868.00	23500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		03 loss 12 members; 04 loss 7
Royalties	1100.00	1469.00	1469.00	1200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		conservative vs 03 actual
Interest	0.00	84.14	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
John Norcross Account		2.00	2.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		
Spring Race Entry	7500.00	7550.00	7550.00	7500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Spring Race Management	0.00	0.00	0.00		3500.00	3120.90	3120.90	3200.00	
Spring Race Committee	0.00	0.00	0.00		5000.00	4135.19	4135.19	4200.00	lower than 03 budget
Spring Party	7863.00	8060.70	8060.70	8000.00	4200.00	4120.09	4120.09	4200.00	
Spring Launch	0.00	0.00	0.00		2400.00	2304.00	2304.00	2400.00	
Spring Tent	0.00	0.00	0.00		1000.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	\$500-\$1500 range
Spring Trophies	0.00	0.00	0.00		2100.00	1516.00	1516.00	1600.00	too low?
memo sub total Spring	15363.00	15610.70	15610.70	15500.00	18200.00	16696.18	16696.18	17100.00	(\$1600) in 04 vs (\$1100) in 03
Fall Race Entry	7000.00	7175.00	7175.00	7000.00					
Fall Race Management	0.00	0.00	0.00		4500.00	1364.00	3200.00	3200.00	
Fall Race Committee	0.00	0.00	0.00		3600.00	4362.72	4362.72	4500.00	higher 03 than budget
Fall Party	7055.00	6880.50	6880.50	7000.00	5500.00	0.00	5328.75	5500.00	
Fall Launch	0.00	0.00	0.00		1500.00	1675.00	1675.00	1700.00	
Fall Misc	0.00	0.00	0.00		500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	needed?
Fall Trophies	0.00	0.00	0.00		2100.00	3329.95	3329.95	1700.00	'03 includes 2yrs expense
memo sub total Fall	14055.00	14055.50	14055.50	14000.00	17700.00	10731.67	17896.42	17100.00	(\$3100) in 04 vs (\$3800) in 03
Club Management					6500.00	0.00			
Dues		0.00	0.00			225.00	225.00	225.00	
Commodore		0.00	0.00			193.03	400.00	400.00	
ExCommodore		0.00	0.00			377.00	400.00	400.00	
Secretary		0.00	0.00			2406.89	2500.00	2500.00	
Race Secretary		0.00	0.00			999.93	1000.00	1000.00	
Measurer		0.00	0.00			0.00	100.00	100.00	
Treasurer		0.00	0.00			957.71	1000.00	1000.00	
Web Site		0.00	0.00			220.00	220.00	220.00	
Total Club Management	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	6500.00	5379.56	5845.00	5845.00	
Race Management		0.00	0.00		1700.00	359.07	359.07	500.00	lower printing/admin costs
Contributions		0.00	0.00		1750.00	250.00	1750.00	1750.00	03 action?
Insurance		0.00	0.00		5000.00	5254.00	5254.00	5400.00	04 terrorist clause?
Perpetual Trophies		0.00	0.00		2000.00	2924.08	2924.08	2500.00	03 extra burgees/higher costs vs budget
Miscellaneous		0.00	0.00		1112.00	0.00	0	3105.00	04 surplus/reserve
Total	58962.00	58653.34	58669.20	57800.00	58962.00	45834.17	54964.36	57800.00	\$3704.84 surplus '03

OSC Historical Budget Overview

Income	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	03/04 Diff.
Annual Dinner	\$5,300	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$3,800	\$4,000	\$3,500	-500 1
Dues	\$21,700	\$22,000	\$21,700	\$21,700	\$22,000	\$24,444	\$23,500	-944 2
Interest	\$470	\$450	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100	100 1
Race Entry Fall	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$4,600	\$5,200	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	0 1
Race Entry Spring	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$5,400	\$5,600	\$7,500	\$7,500	0 1
Race Party Fall	\$5,150	\$5,100	\$4,700	\$5,600	\$5,800	\$7,055	\$7,000	-55 1
Race Party Spring	\$5,150	\$5,100	\$5,300	\$5,810	\$5,800	\$7,863	\$8,000	138 1
Royalties	\$0	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,100	\$1,200	100 3
Total Income	\$47,570	\$49,450	\$47,400	\$50,210	\$50,500	\$58,962	\$57,800	-\$1,162
Expense	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	03/04 Diff.
Annual Dinner	\$5,300	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$4,500	-500 1
Annual Video		\$800	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	0
Club Management	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$6,500	\$6,100	\$6,100	\$6,500	\$5,845	-655 1
Contributions	\$1,700	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,750	\$1,750	0 1
Entertainment Fall	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$4,800	\$4,100	\$4,500	\$7,500	\$7,700	200 1
Entertainment Spring	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$6,300	\$7,500	\$7,600	\$7,600	\$8,100	500 1
Insurance	\$3,800	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,400	400 4
Race Committee Fall	\$2,500	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,800	\$3,500	\$3,600	\$4,500	900 1
Race Committee Spring	\$2,500	\$2,200	\$3,000	\$3,800	\$3,900	\$5,000	\$4,200	-800 1
Race Management	\$3,500	\$1,500	\$500	\$500	\$1,200	\$1,700	\$500	-1200 1
Race Management Fall	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$4,200	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$2,500	-2000 1
Race Management Spring	\$7,100	\$7,000	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,700	\$3,500	\$3,200	-300 1
Trophies Fall	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$1,700	-400 5
Trophies Perpetual	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,500	500 6
Trophies Spring	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$500	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$1,600	-500 1
Other	(\$2,830)	\$750	\$1,100	\$210	-\$2,100	\$1,112	\$3,805	2693 7
Total Expenses	\$47,570	\$49,450	\$47,400	\$50,210	\$50,500	\$58,962	\$57,800	(\$1,162)

NOTES

1. 04 based on 03 actuals
2. 04 net 7 fewer members; 03 was 12 fewer than 02
3. 04 conservative vs 03 actual of \$1469
4. 03 actual minus terrorist coverage, plus escalation
5. 03 actual adjusted for payment of 02 trophies in 03
6. 03 actual minus cost of extra burgees
7. Budgeted 'surplus'

OSC Race Secretary
Issues for Off Sounding Board of Governors Meeting
October 25, 2003

Race Documents

Race documents have been cleaned up and brought into closer conformance with the Rules. Spring documents will be brought into conformance with fall 2003 documents. The smaller booklets seem to be well accepted and are less expensive to produce and mail. There will be new style covers for all booklets for 2004. Notice of Race will be printed in black with a blue cover. Final Notice will be blue on white.

I intend to drop prices in the General Information section. Pricing is volatile and it reflects poorly on the club when we state a rate and the operator charges more.

Internet

E-mail and the website have been used extensively through out the race administration and have worked extremely well. However, in regard to race documents the printed documents are the official documents and are intended to remain so. Special provisions are made to ensure that those not having Internet access are provided with adequate communication.

Dates

Review of proposed dates (attached).

2004 Fall Series may be in conflict with the Greenport Maritime Festival. The issue is accommodations, which were tight at Greenport this year and may be unworkable in conjunction with another event with a broader better-established base.

Multihulls vs. OSC Equipment standards

Recommend that we obtain standards from NEMA and implement them for Class D.

Guest co-skippers

The Sailing Instruction 1.5 states:

Master—Off Soundings Club rules require that at least one of the persons in whose name a boat is entered (Master) must be on board for each race and in command of that boat. For guests, only the guest can be the Master and must be aboard and in command for each race.

I have been enforcing this conservatively. No one can be a co-skipper with a guest, even another guest or a member.

Guest Invitations to Membership Chairman

Recommend that the Membership Chairman take over the Guest Invitation process. With the use of e-mail this should work fine.

Scorer

Proposal to establish a Scoring Committee

Responsibilities of the Scoring Chairman:

Develop or acquire scoring software and procedures within OSC guidelines.

Staff the Committee Boat with scorers.
 Do the scoring aboard and produce results during the Race Series,
 Produce results for the website.
 Producing permutations of the results needed by other organizations for their use.
 Right now this is the multihull association and ECSA, there have been other requests.
 Keep track of the acquisition and dropping of PEs for skippers and boats from one series to another.
 Determine and keep records of club Perpetual Trophy winners, done without PE.

Classification Chairman

The Classification Committee would be eliminated. With the advent of PHRF the Measurer and the Race Secretary essentially do the classification work.

Classes and Special Classes

Class	Spring	Fall
A	11	11
B	7	6
C-1	18	17
C-2	15	17
C-3	12	9
C-4	10	9
C-5	15	12
C-6	13	12
D	7	5
J	7	8
NS-1	11	13
NS-2	13	13
NS-3	13	13
T	--	7
Total	153	152

Special classes create considerable extra workload for the Race Secretary, especially in processing invitations, special mailings, etc., and in personal follow up to ensure a valid class. Comments are requested. Suggested guidelines attached.

Release of Processable Data

I have received requests from individuals to receive spreadsheets of results with and without PE. So far, I have refused. The rationale is that in releasing such data OSC becomes liable for explaining any errors that may arise from further processing regardless of the source. I believe that should be our policy. Spreadsheet data should be released only to organizations at the discretion of the Race Secretary. At this time that is ECSA and NEMA only, although I believe we may receive a request from PHRF-ELI.

I also release results without PE only to those organizations. The official series results are with PE only.

Steven M. Purdy
 OSC Race Secretary

EVENT	YEAR_2000	YEAR_2001	YEAR_2002	YEAR_2003	YEAR_2004	YEAR_2005	YEAR_2006	YEAR_2007
Status	APPROVED	APPROVED						
Early Guest Invita	April 6	April 5	April 4	April 3	April 1	Mar 31	Mar 30	April 12
Annual Meeting/Din Easter	April 8 April 23	April 7 April 15	April 6 Mar 31	April 5 April 20	April 3 April 11	April 2 Mar 27	April 8 April 16	April 14 April 8
SPRING RACE SERIES								
First Notice	April 21	April 20	April 19	April 18	April 16	April 15	April 14	April 27
Late Guest Invi	May 4	May 3	May 9	May 8	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3
Closing Date	May 18	May 17	May 23	May 22	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17
Final Notice	June 2	June 1	June 7	June 6	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1
Race Dates	June 9-10	June 8-9	June 14-1	June 13-14	June 11-12	June 10-11	June 9-1	June 8-9
Bermuda Race start	June 16	Jun 15 ??(M/B)	June 14	June 20??(June 18??	(M/B)		(M/B)
Spring Race Series	July 7	July 6	July 12	July 11	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6
FALL RACE SERIES								
First Notice	July 7	July 6	July 12	July 11	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6
Late Guest Invi	August 10	August 9	August 8	August 7	August 12	August 11	August 1	August 9
Closing Date	August 24	August 23	August 22	August 21	August 26	August 25	August 2	August 23
Final Notice	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7
Race Dates	Sept 15-1	Sept 14-15	Sept 13-1	Sept 12-13	Sept 17-18	Sept 16-17	Sept 15-	Sept 14-15
Labor Day	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3
Final Results	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 11	Oct 10	Oct 15	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12
BOARD MEETINGS								
January	Jan 21	Jan 19 (26)	Jan 18 (2	Jan 17	Jan 16	Jan 21	Jan 20	Jan 19
April	April 8	April 7	April 6	April 5	April 3	April 2	April 1	April 14
October	Oct 28	Oct 27	Oct 26	Oct 25	Oct 30	Oct 29	Oct 28	Oct 27
US SAILING Annual Dyer Dhow Derby	Oct 11-15	Oct 17-21	Oct 16-20	Oct 15-19	Oct 20-24	Oct 19-23	Oct 18-2	Oct 17-21?

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB Special Classes

From time to time The Off Soundings Club may agree to start special classes of boats such as one-design, level rating, type ownership groups, special interest groups or others in its Race Series.

All participants in Off Soundings Race Series must be Off Soundings Club members in good standing or invited guests.

Special classes must have an Off Soundings member in good standing as an appointed sponsor, who will act as Class Liaison with the Off Soundings Club throughout the class's participation in Off Soundings events. The Class OSC Liaison is a Class function rather than an OSC function.

Special class approvals are valid for one year and must be renewed in April for the coming year.

The sponsor must submit a request for establishment or continuation of the class including minimum class size and a description of the requirements for participation to the Race Secretary by March 15 for consideration at the April Board of Governors meeting each year.

The Board of Governors may accept or deny the request, may set requirements to be met for the class to participate, and may disestablish a class or deny its participation in any given race series at its discretion.

Once participation has been approved it is the responsibility of the Class Liaison to encourage participation and assist non-OSC members who desire to participate to obtain invitations to race. He will also establish internal class requirements, publish them to class members and ensure that they are met, including class membership, conformance of boat and crew to class regulations, acceptance of non-conforming boats, special handicaps to be used, if any, and other pertinent criteria.

If the class rules require a specific statement, modification, or waiver of class rules to be included in the Sailing Instructions the Class Liaison will provide the statement in signed letterform and it will be included with the Final Notice. Such inclusions have the force of Sailing Instructions as provided in SI 1.1, "Governance," of the OSC Sailing Instructions. Note that such requirements can apply to internal Class issues only and not to the general conduct of the racing, which is the sole jurisdiction of the Off Sounding Club. If such a letter is not received at least two weeks prior to the mailing date for the Final Notice it will be assumed that there are no special Sailing Instruction requirements for the class.

The Chief Measurer will determine the need for Off Soundings Club Data Measurement Certificates for the class, and must agree to the use of any alternative measurement, handicapping, or penalty systems in lieu of normal Off Soundings Club procedures. If alternatives are agreed to the Class Liaison is responsible for providing handicaps and penalties in a timely and accurate manner or for providing a reliable contact from which the Measurer may obtain them.

The Class Liaison will communicate regularly with the Race Secretary, Chief Handicapper, and Race Committee Chairman regarding the viability of the class, the likelihood that it will participate as a class in upcoming race series, and any special internal requirements that the class has set.

The Class Liaison, Race Secretary, and Chief Measurer will agree on the class constituency prior to the Classification Meeting for each race series. With this agreement the Class Liaison certifies that in his opinion all pre-race class requirements have been agreed upon and met by each participant

If during the Race Series the Class Liaison finds that any class participant is in violation of the class regulations that yacht should be encouraged to withdraw from competition voluntarily. The Off Soundings Club will not accept protests based on breaches of class rules or otherwise enforce class-specific requirements, adjudicate disagreements, or assess penalties for non-conformance.

In all other respects special class participants must conform to the rules, regulations, and Sailing Instructions of the Race Series as stated in the First and Final Notices unless waivers are granted by the Race Secretary.

In the event that by the entry deadline for a Series there are insufficient entries to meet the class minimum size entrants will have the option of being assigned to a regular PHRF class or withdrawing their entry.

Entrants who would be eligible to participate in a special class but prefer to sail in a regular Off Soundings handicap class may do so by declaration to the Race Secretary.

Off Soundings Club

Neal S. O'Connell, Vice Commodore
81 East Pattagansett Road, #32
Niantic, CT 06357

To: Commodore John Brooks
From: Vice Commodore Neal S. O'Connell
Subject: Vice Commodore's Report

1. Diane Trophy was received from Past Commodore Bohlen and delivered to Joe Spaulding, the 2002 winner. While this is the first year that this trophy has been awarded, it is up to date regarding the engraving of it's past winners.
2. Pictures of the Diane Trophy, The Rhubarb Trophy and The Paul van Dyke Memorial Trophy have been taken and forwarded to Secretary Peck.
3. The Annual Meeting and Shore Party is tentatively booked in the River Room at the Seaman's Inn. A dinner similar to last year's event is planned. Cost for the dinner has increased about a dollar from last year. The price for dinner would be approximately \$37.00.

Respectfully submitted

