

Shields Class Association Governing Board phone conference 3-11-14:

Members in attendance:

Com Crocker- President Larchmont (fleet 1)
Wendy Goodwin- Secretary Marion (fleet 10)
Jay Dayton-Treasurer Oxford (fleet 21)
Richard Robbins-Marion (fleet 10)
Betsy Yale-Newport Hosting Nationals 2015(fleet9)

Eric Anderson-Monterey (fleet 12)
Rick Hendee-Indian Harbor (fleet 2)
Rick Gibson-Northern MA Bay (fleet 4)
Tim Bryan-Edgartown (fleet 9)
Chris Wick-Masons Island (19)

Presidents Report: Com Crocker: Com thanked both Tim Bryan & Eric Anderson for joining us on the call so we can further discuss the 2016 Shields Nationals. He suggests noting the minutes from the last conference call that are posted on the website as it's a great way to review before the next meeting. Officers & fleet reps: please forward the minutes to your members so they are kept up to date with what the Governing Board is discussing.

Treasurers Report: There has been no activity this month on the Treasury side of things. We did get a letter back from the IRS acknowledging the recent of our application for a Tax Exempt status 501 C 7, Social Club or Association. Jay asked the question: should he connect with the fleet treasurers to assure they meet the dues deadline? There was discussion & the group will discuss moving the dues deadline to the beginning of the season as many fleets require membership to race locally. Look for the advert in Sailing world as the association continues to support this advert.

INCOME: (Checking Balance 02/28/2014)	\$19,618.50
EXPENSES:	\$ 0
Current Account Balance:	\$19,618.50

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Dayton, Class Treasurer,
Fleet #21

Secretary's Report:

1. I communicated with the IOD fleet to let them know the Shields Association isn't able to send a group to race, but that there was a local fleet (Beverly Yacht Club) that is considering attending. I know we preferred to support the Great Lakes Challenge Cup but are Shields Class Association funds available to pay the Marion fleets way if they are representing Shields as a whole? There was lots of discussion & the Oxford fleet expressed interest as well. Oxford & Marion will connect to see about forming a team.
2. The price for the mahogany donated trophy base from Cape Cod Shipbuilding Co. was a little over \$4,000. This was for the base & the installation of the plaques.
3. We'll discuss the Regatta Network later in the meeting, but the brown bag occurred earlier in the day.

Technical Committee Report: none for this month.

New & Old Business:

Membership:

1. **Regatta Network:** A group of officers attended the brown bag session earlier today. There's also a functional demo site at www.onedesigndemo.com if anyone else would like to try this. There was a general consensus that the Regatta Network is flexible & will allow members to pay local & national dues. The local dues could then be dispersed to each fleet after the dues deadline. Payments can be made with credit cards pay/pall etc. It's easy for a member to update their own information. Richard

Robbins reports that most of the framework is in the current system already & he could do it without using Regatta Network. It was confirmed that hosts of specific regattas don't have to use regatta network. The regatta porthole is separate from the membership but they can be blended together if the host desires. Many fleets have used this program to run events-it's easy to use. Com says anything that alleviates the officers from the "daily grind" would be good. We need time to digest. It was good to get all the info on this.

Great Lakes Challenge Cup: This Thursday is a committee meeting. There is no NOR yet. Please talk it up. Posts will be up shortly.

Perpetual Trophies: The value of the trophy base is approx 4,000. The cost for an appraisal of the tray will be \$75 (appraisal fee). The group agreed to get the tray appraised so it can be insured & move forward.

2014 Shields Nationals-Larchmont, NY: the 2014 Shields Nationals will take place in Larchmont, NY Wednesday Sept 10, 2014 to Saturday Sept 13, 2014. Sign up today. The NOR & the details for the Legends Race are all up on the website. The Legends will be a great way to get seasoned Shields racers to reconnect with one another & the boat. The Legends race is Wednesday Sept 10.

There was discussion of using Kitac tracking using smart phones. I phone on each boat would have to download the app. They are currently looking into whether to purchase a fleet subscription \$750, a 1 time use fee \$650 or a class subscription \$1,500.

The coffee table book is also underway. They are looking for photos & old info/historical info. Please spread the word.

Sponsorship: not a lot of progress Rick, Jan & Com will connect to help get the sizzle back.

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: The 2015 Shields Nationals will be in Newport, RI: September 10-12, 2015 The launching will occur on the 8th, Practice race on the 9th. "Blue blazer" dinner will be on the Saturday.

2016 Shields Nationals- Eric Anderson from the Monterey Yacht Club outlined their application during the meeting last month. Tim Bryan of Edgartown fleet 9 outlined his application during this meeting. Tim thanked the group for inviting him to the meeting. He noted that the two proposals are extreme venues both with their draws & challenges. Edgartown is a great place to race/sail/visit. The, dining, housing and clubhouse are all in order. An entry fee would be \$650. They have a similar number of boats in their local fleet as CA 13 boats, 7 actively racing. A concern was posed that there hasn't been much Edgartown support at away Shields Nationals. There are 3 Edgartown Shields planning to attend Larchmont. The Edgartown fleet is competing with other growing classes in the same harbor & they would go with whatever is best for the Association. Hosting would strengthen their local fleet.

Arriving in Martha's Vineyard: Visiting yachts can launch at MacDougal's in Falmouth, it's a 2 hr sail. It's a 4 hour sail from Marion, you can also take the ferry. Tim will share separately what the ferry fee would be. They have support boats that will look out for arriving yachts sailing through Woods Hole.

There was discussion about what time of year: best after Labor Day as there is more housing available. They would keep the timing in-between the current class rules.

The question was asked of both fleets whether they would consider 2017.

There was a question of the Monterey fleet of the condition of the boats competing. They sail all year long so may not be as pristine as boats raced 1/2 the year, but they are class legal and maintained. They wouldn't discourage owner to bring their boats as it will increase participation. There was additional discussion of west

coast timing as they would be open to a mid winters & then host Nationals in the fall. There was discussion if the Association would foot the bill for hauling & power washing of the fleet 12 boats before Nationals. It was reported a Marion boat was being transported to the west coast & the cost for 1 boat \$6,400.

e-mail from Eric Anderson regarding a Mid Winters & time of year for Nationals:

From: Eric Anderson [mailto:eric.anderson@form10.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 12:47 PM
To: 'Com Crocker'
Cc: Wendy Goodwin
Subject: Follow Up on The Minutes From February - Monterey Proposal 2016

Hi Com,

There was some discussion of holding the Shields National Regatta in Monterey during the Jan/Feb timeframe during our most recent meeting. For a number of reasons, we feel that holding a Nationals in the fall timeframe remains the best option for everyone. While we often enjoy great conditions here in the winter, the little rain we get annually tends to arrive at this time. We think there will be several top sailors who will trailer their boats to Monterey for a Nationals here. If the regatta were to be held in Jan/Feb, this is much less likely due to snow in the Rockies. Plus, the Shields crews tend to peak in September after sailing all season and we are concerned that lack of continuity/practice may further dampen interest from the Class for an event held at this time.

In addition to the entire summer we have some beautiful sailing conditions throughout October annually. This may be the best option for all. It would allow the East Coast crews to stay active in their local waters for the duration of their seasons, feature the event while the crews collectively are in top form and precede any likely weather conditions between the coasts which might deter trailering of boats.

In conjunction with a Monterey (Sep/Oct) Nationals we would like to host a Mid-Winter Classic during the winter preceding to allow out of area Shields sailors to get a taste of our sailing and to solicit recommendations for a National Regatta later that year. We would propose to use our Shields and have mixed crews from the various fleets to discourage the need to send sails and to make investments in our boats. We would sponsor a trophy and, if well-received, this Winter Classic could become an annual or biannual event to break up the long offseason for Shields crews around the country.

Best,

Eric D. Anderson
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Managing Director

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Reminder:

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

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: September 10-12, 2015

2016 Two bids have been received—from Monterey, CA and Edgartown, MA

Our next conference call is:

Tuesday April 8th 8PM eastern time

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary