

## Shields Class Governing Board Meeting 3-12-13

Attendees: Mike Schwartz, Com Crocker, Fred Werblow, Chris Wick, Richard Robbins, Rick Hendee, Andy Segal, Roland Schultz, Wendy Goodwin, Dual Macintyre, Jay Dayton,

Fred gave **treasurer's report**: SHIELDS CLASS SAILING ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT

Since his last report he received dues from Tred-Avon for 2013 amounting to \$610, interest of \$1.52 and has paid U S Sailing membership \$150 and Sailing World for our participation in the One Design display for \$140.

WEBSTER BANK BALANCE is currently \$21,223.06. Please send in your fleet dues. Fred is in process of preparing the budget for 2013-collecting input from other fleet members. The largest yearly expense is the newsletter. Once complete he will share the budget with the committee via e-mail.

**Secretary's Report**: Nothing new to report except welcome to the newly revived Fleet 4-North Shore fleet. I'm currently in the middle of boats hows (just finished Boston & packed for Maine). The minutes from the meeting last month are posted on the Shields website & a link was posted on the Shields Facebook page.

Fleet Reports:

1. Fleet 1 Larchmont: 9 boats have committed to attend Nationals in Oxford. (lots of discussion about eating hats if boats attend/don't attend). They are discussing adopting the West LI Sound rule for a 1 turn penalty if outside the 3 boat length circle. Richard confirms that no action is needed on a national level. They think they can get 17 boats to race in the Nationals in 2014, but want to get 27 boats, so please if you know of any to charter/repair/purchase etc please let Fleet 1 know. They will connect with the sponsorship committee to further along the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary efforts. They will move their fleet races slightly on some dates to welcome Fleet 2 to join them.
2. Fleet 2 Captains Harbor fleet: Rick Hendee reports they will send 1 boats to Oxford. They had a fleet meeting/open house 2 weeks ago. The club itself is putting more emphasis on One Design racing. They have 3 boats that are syndicate owned/8 owners.
3. Fleet 3 Chicago: Mike reports they had a nice turnout for the Strictly Sail Chicago show which prompted some new crew/potential new owners. They are planning a fleet party shortly so will collect the dues. They will continue discussions about the **Great Lakes Challenge**. They have 3 interested boats considering attending Nationals.
4. Fleet 9 Newport: They are planning an April Registration party/fleet meeting that will include a Q&A on the new rules. They will collect the dues at that time. The fleet dues were raised & Andy asked how other fleets are handling rising costs. They had a fleet website upgrade shieldsfleet9.org in hopes to increase the number of boats racing. They are unsure how many will commit to attending Nationals in Oxford. They are making an effort to promote it. They just finished their local NOR & SI's. They are rescheduling the protest hearings so a certified judge is present.
5. Fleet 10 Marion: Marion is planning a gathering in April & are looking for new officers as George Gardner will step down as Fleet Capt. Marion expects to send 3 Shields to Oxford.
6. Fleet 19 Masons Island: 2 Shields are committed to attend Nationals. They are planning a fleet meeting & will make sure dues are sent to Fred.
7. Fleet 21 Oxford: Jay Dayton expects to see all 11 boats racing in the Nationals, perhaps 12 as #255 was received sold back into the fleet after being damaged in Hurricane Sandy. Racing starts in Oxford April 22. They will also have a summer & fall series leading up to the nationals. Thursday they plan a rules and Pro seminar . They have a new website coming soon & will link it to the class association.

**Nominating Committee:** Bill Berry, Robin Monk & H.L. Devore will constitute our nominating committee. Mike will meet with them shortly & they are very positive they will get a good slate of officers to present during our next annual meeting.

**Nationals 2013: Oxford:** Jay Dayton reports they are in full planning mode. They have already received commitments for 6 sponsors including Cape Cod Shipbuilding. The NOR is on the Shields Class website. Mike Schwartz is encouraged with the potential numbers attending Oxford's Nationals.

**Nationals 2014: Larchmont:** Com Crocker reports they have been having productive meetings with great ideas to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup>. The two dates they are discussing are Sept 11-13 or October (just after Columbus Day). The October date is more attractive as there is potential for more wind, it would be easier to haul & travel & we would get a break between fleet racing & Nationals. The risk with the October date is that there could be too much wind & the weather may turn too cold. Com has been speaking with many of the fleets to get their input. They need more response so they can discuss at their next meeting. It may be the Sept. 11 date (Thurs/Sat) would be the safer choice. Larchmont was sorry they missed the Nationals in Marion-Marion says no worries. H.L. will connect with Jan Slee regarding sponsorship opportunities. Once the date is picked they can run with things/really push the marketing. It was suggested that they really consider a Friday-Sunday event rather than Thursday-Saturday as it is difficult to get crew to commit to taking 2 days off from work & we would have more participation. There was discussion about the difficulty of racing, hauling & awarding/banqueting on Sunday. The fleets took a poll as there were mixed views:

Many opted for the traditional Thursday-Saturday but some would agree to a Friday-Sunday if increased participation will occur. Turnout for these events is an issue. Some discussed a 4 day longer format event. We are planning our 50<sup>th</sup>.

**Technical Committee:** Richard Robbins reports things are quiet on the technical side. He urged the group to further discuss 1. Limiting the crew to 4, the rejection of the loose footed mainsail & the roller furling jib as allowing these would increase participation. The fleets need to consider these changes for the health of the association/fleets.

New Business:

1. Andy Segal asked if there are links for all the fleets & all the yacht clubs on the Shields website-there are.
2. Andy reports that the Newport's Race Committee costs are rising. Chicago says they have experienced the same & raise the dues slightly each year to accommodate. Others like Larchmont concur. Most members expect cost increases. The group recommend Newport consider raising the yacht club dues, not the fleet dues. If folks complain, state the goal/mission statement: the funds are to promote the sport of sailing.

**Our next conference call is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.**

Respectfully Submitted

Wendy J. Goodwin  
Shields Class Secretary