

SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS SAILING

CONFERENCE CALL

PRESENT: Peter Johns, Wianno YC, Tim Bryan, Edgartown YC, Phyllis Partridge, Beverly YC, Wes Durant, Wild Harbor YC, Joel Hanneman, Beverly YC, Drew Carlson, Stone Horse YC, Robert Reifeiss, Plymouth YC, Rob Hurd, Tabor Academy, Lisa Patten, Stage Harbor YC, Doug Calnan, Scituate Harbor YC, Tom Tullius, Quisett YC, Diedre Rynne, Edgartown YC, Betsy Zorski Menauhant YC

GUEST: Charlie Leighton, Executive Director, US SAILING

TEAM RACING – Joel Hanneman reported that there will be three (3) in-season scrimmages. They are scheduled for July 1, July 14, and July 29. No Host Club yet for the July 29 scrimmage. Drew Carlson offered to host this scrimmage also at Stone Horse YC if no other site is offered. Joel will draft a format to be followed at each of these scrimmages. The Championship Team Racing event is scheduled for August 7 and 8 to be held at Community Boating of New Bedford and co-hosted by New Bedford YC. Peter Johns reported that he has 6 umpires scheduled for this championship. The question was raised if both A and B teams would be combined. Joel reported that he has not heard from all the Clubs as yet and therefore could not answer. To date Joel has received responses from 9 A Teams and 14 B Teams. Peter Johns will send an email to all Clubs requesting them to respond to Joel if interested in team racing. No response yet from Falmouth YC, Plymouth YC, Duxbury Bay MS, and Nantucket. Suggestion to Joel to send out a list of the Clubs that have responded and possibly some networking can take place among the Clubs.

US SAILING – Charlie Leighton welcomed and introduced by Peter Johns to all on the call. Charlie first expressed appreciation to all for their volunteer support to the sport of sailing. He reported that the organization has been financially stable since 2005. He then reviewed goals of US Sailing: to maintain a level playing field for all members, to select a team to go to the Olympics, to support Instructor training (US Sailing trains 1400 instructors annually who teach 60000 junior sailors), issue Off Shore Certificates (US Sailing has the trade mark for PHRF ratings), support 18 Championships held in 12 different states with 2000 juniors participating, support Junior Olympics, and mostly to provide leadership for the sport of sailing. A new SAILORSHIP program has been initiated through the generous donation of \$25000. These monies will be available to all juniors who qualify to go to events but have no funding to support their effort. These Juniors can apply through their yacht clubs. All Olympic funding comes from the US Olympic Funding Committee. Charlie reported that the average age of competitors for this next Olympics is 7 years younger than 2 years ago. Questions raised to Charlie referred to US Sailing membership status and where it will be in a year from now, status of Race Management training and Judge training. Concerns shared with Charlie on the decreasing number of Judges remaining in Area A. Question also raised on how SM Sailing compares to other local sailing organizations across the country. Charlie

responded that the vitality of the volunteers is the strength of the organization. Charlie thanked all for having him and stated that he would be happy to join in again next year.

Peter adjourned the meeting at 1945

Next Meeting: May 5, 2008