

# MAST

## 2017 End of Season Meeting

Thursday, October 26, 2017

McKinley Green Pavilion

Commodore McClellan called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

### A. Opening Remarks

Terry stated that there will be two open officer positions in 2018, Vice Commodore and Race Chairperson. Voting will take place at January business meeting. Members are encouraged to express their interest or nominate another member for an officer position. Officers do not need to be boat captains.

Terry thanked Guy (Treasurer) and Clay (Yeoman) for continuing in their positions for another year.

Terry also thanked Dana for continuing in her role as membership coordinator. Dana has proposed a new membership renewal process as outlined in the agenda.

Terry reported that Russ Whitford is collecting funds for Dominica relief. Russ has received approximately \$1000.00 from MAST members so far and the funds have been used to purchase building tools and solar lights. Additional donations are needed and MAST members are encouraged to participate as possible.

### B. Upcoming Events

Terry reminded the members about the following upcoming events:

- Santa Rampage bicycling event is on December 2, 2018.
- Holiday party is December 16, 2018 at SSYC, one week later than in past years. Event is being coordinated by Dana.
- Annual membership meeting will be held in January at West Marine, specific date and time still to be determined.
- Awards Banquet will take place in February, specific date, time and locatION to be announced. Caroline Duehmig is coordinating the event.
- Spring Brunch will be held in April, specific date, time and location to be announced. Severine Zaslowski is coordinating this event.

### **C. Budget Report**

Guy reported that we currently have approximately \$400 in net revenue for the year. We met our goal for social memberships and racing memberships were at 89 percent of goal. There may have been a few racing members who did not pay their full membership cost. Pizza parties, Awards Banquet and Spring Brunch were all managed well and expenses were close to budgeted amounts. MAST currently has cash reserves of \$3,891.

### **D. Season Highlights and Discussion Points**

Terry read an e-mail from Jim Kerlin with several comments:

- Registration system is working well so long as e-mail addresses are current. Terry and Joe commented that it should be a member responsibility to make sure that e-mail addresses are updated.
- There were too many collisions during this past season. Accidents have several root causes. At least one accident caused by an over-zealous skipper. MAST racing should be about safety first.

General discussion followed about ideas for preventing future accidents:

- Most accidents occur in the starting sequence and at the marks. MAST should increase educational efforts about racing rules to prevent barging and respecting right of way at the marks. Members should be regularly encouraged to read the racing rules and barging materials available on the MAST website. Discussion about making additional racing rules education mandatory for all skippers.
- Reach-reach races are very dangerous, particularly at the turns. Should be avoided if possible.
- Idea raised to consider creating an interval between starting sequences.
- Discussion about importance of boats respecting start sequences of other divisions. Idea proposed to include this reminder in the script given to race committees. Idea proposed to give the race committee boat the power to penalize boats that are in the starting box out of sequence.
- Proposal made to include accident review as a seminar topic so that members can learn from real-life situations.

Proposal raised by Joe Buck to create a three-person Race Committee to make decisions on collisions and protests. Committee would include past, present and future Race chairpersons. Expect that a three-person committee would produce a better review process because of multiple

viewpoints and therefore enhanced credibility with membership. Discussions followed about whether MAST as an organization should be encouraging or discouraging protests for rules violations that do not result in a collision.

Discussion of potential marketing efforts to increase membership, including additional outreach to MCSC and its members.

Discussion of increasing post-race social opportunities in addition to the MAST-sponsored pizza parties. Discussion of possible locations for more informal post-race socializing.

Discussion about power of race committee to alter course based on conditions. Agreed that race committee should not be permitted to change a race from non-spinnaker to spinnaker on the day of an event. Further agreed that race committee should be allowed to shorten a race course as necessary but should not be allowed to lengthen the course or to change the shape of the course unless shortening to a windward-leeward course due to wind conditions.

Discussion about possibly making the first start sequence earlier when we get later in the season to try to finish in daylight as much as possible.

#### **E. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clay Greene, Yeoman

**MAST Attendees:** George Bennett, Joe Buck, Gene Cramer, Joe Duehmig, Rip Edmundson, Steve Elhard, Matt Furey, Clay Greene, Tom Heinrich, Guy Mascari, Jeff McClellan, Terry McClellan, Roy Schneider, Ken Quant and Song Xiong,