



## THE COCKTAIL CLASS WOODEN BOAT RACING ASSOCIATION

### Executive Team Meeting Minutes December 10, 2024 7:15pm

**Attendance:** Fred Allerton, Commodore; Tara Carew, Vice-Commodore; Jeff Weeber, Treasurer; Lena Cantera, Secretary; Chris Norman, Member at Large; Tom Kerr, Director; Lou Linden, Regional Fleet Captain, Membership Chair

**November Meeting Minutes:** Motion to Approve Chris N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom K.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

##### **Current financial status:**

- Wells Fargo \$2,193.04
- PayPal account \$5,247.76

##### **2025 Budget:**

- (11/12/24) Jeff reviewed the 2025 proposed budget, and Execs voted to approve with minor changes discussed. See previous minutes.
- **UPDATE (12/10/24)** – Directors voted to approve the 2025 budget at the 11/22/24 Board meeting.

##### **Non-profit Status / Annual reporting / BOI Reports:**

- (11/12/24) See previous minutes.
- **UPDATE (12/10/24)** –
  - Jeff W. reported that the U.S. District Court of Eastern district of Texas issued a Preliminary Injunction blocking the U.S. Dept of Treasury from enforcing the BOI reporting requirements. Jeff said that it would have been impossible for CCWBRA to file the BOI regardless because there are no stocks issued and no owners.
  - On the matter of applying for reinstatement of the 501 (c) (7) tax-exempt status, the CPA has prepared the required documentation. The application will be made pending amendments to the CCWBRA Bylaws intended to facilitate future compliance with IRS filing requirements for non-profits. A membership vote of the Amendment is on track to be completed by 12/31/24.

### **2025 Race and Event Calendar (Updated 12/4/24):**

- **Governor's Cup** – March 15 - *NSB, FL* – (Lisa Merilson)
- **Sunnyland Boat Festival** - March 21-23 - *Tavares, FL* - (Rick Loewen)
- **NNSPS Spring Boat Show** – April 26 - Kilmarnock, VA - (Art Gilbert)
- **Skuas on the Lehigh** – May 31 - *Allentown, PA* - (Tom Kerr)
- **Camp David Cup** – June 21 – Kennedyville, MD - (Dave & Lena Cantera)
- **WoodenBoat Show** – June 27-29 – *Mystic, CT* – (Fred Allerton & Kim Granbery)
- **Kent Island Race** – July 19 - *Kent Island, MD* - (Keith & Tara Carew)
- **Mystic River Race \*** – Aug 2 – *Mystic, CT* - (Jim Schmicker & Kim Granbery)
- **National Championship** – August 16 - *Rock Hall, MD* - (T. Steffes & P. Urbani)
- **TK Walker Memorial Tennessee Cup** – Sept 13 - *Counce, TN* – (Chris Norman)
- **Sultana's Downrigging Festival** – Oct 31 - Nov 2 - Chestertown, MD – (Tom Kerr)
  
- **UPDATE \* (12/10/24) – News came to the meeting by way of Jim Schmicker's 12/10/24 email - that the Mystic Seaport Museum Event Committee greenlighted the proposed August 2<sup>nd</sup> CCWBRA race.**

### **Events Pending:**

- **St. Michael's** Mid-Atlantic Sm. Craft Festival (Tentative) – Oct 4-5 – *St Michael's, MD*

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Bylaws - 2025:**

- (11/12/24) - Tom Kerr reported that the Bylaws Committee has scheduled a Nov 14th meeting to markup FLB's draft of the Bylaws. Per the earlier mentioned pause on legal counsel for the Bylaws, the committee will meet to finalize their edits, however it will hold up discussion on them with the law firm Fitzpatrick Lentz Bubba. Tom will notify FLB that we will be pausing their services until various other issues are resolved.
  
- **UPDATE (12/10/24) – Tom K. reported that the Bylaws Committee met on 11/14/24 to consolidate notes and proposed edits, as preparation for a review meeting with FLB eventually. A meeting with FLB remains on hold.**

#### **2024 Handbook/ rule revisions:**

- (5/14/24 through 11/12/24) See previous minutes.
- (11/12/24) - Racing Handbook 2025 Edition - Review/Approval
  - In advance of the meeting, Tara sent copies of the Racing Handbook (with the Rule 7.2 Helmet update) to the Committee members for review.
  - Motion was made and seconded to approve the Racing Handbook 2025 Edition with the updated 7.2 Helmet Rule. Motion carried. With that vote the Racing Handbook 2025 Edition can be passed to the Board for their review/approval.

- **UPDATE (12/10/24)**
  - **Directors voted on Dec 1 to approve the Racing Handbook with changes to Rule 7.2.1.1.2 regarding a 6/1/25 sunset date for Helmet Std 1385.**
  - **Execs agreed to assign “Adopted” date of Dec 1, 2024, and “Effective” date of Jan 1, 2025 to the Racing Handbook.**

#### **Helmets – Evaluation of Additional Standards:**

- (9/10/24 through 11/12/24): See previous minutes.
- (11/12/24) - Helmet Standard NTA 8776:
  - Fred A. reported that the Safety Committee has been requested to evaluate an optional helmet standard and a particular helmet complying with that standard. Report will be submitted to the Exec Committee:
    - S1 Retro Lifer Helmet
    - Standard NTA 8776 for E-Bikes

- **UPDATE (12/10/24)**
  - **The Executive Committee reviewed the Safety Committee’s evaluation of Standard NTA 8776 for E-Bike Helmets. Based on the Safety Committee’s recommendation, the Executive Committee voted to include NTA 8776 as “permitted” helmet standard, by means of an Addendum to the Racing Handbook.**
  - **The Execs voted to approve Addendum No. 1, which is proposed to modify Rule 7.2.1.1.1 to include NTA 8776 as a “permitted” standard. Since this addendum constitutes a rule change, the Board’s review and approval is also required.**
  - **It was agreed by the Executive Committee that if other helmet standards are proposed, evaluated, and approved, then additional addenda could be used for the same purpose.**

#### **AV Plates & Skua Plans on CLC Website**

- (5/14/24 thru 11/12/24): See previous minutes.
- (11/12/24) - Fred A reported that he and Connie discussed content for CCWBRA’s website interface with CLC’s website’s AV Plate sales page and will follow up.
- **UPDATE (12/10/24) The AV Plate page under resources is “live” on the website. Fred A. to notify CLC.**

#### **Merchandise:**

##### Hats:

- Keith mentioned P.O.S. retailers, such as Lands’ End and Team One Newport, where we can set up the sale of customized clothing with Cocktail Class branding via a “Club Store”. Ray will investigate. Our website can share a link to direct members to the P.O.S. retailer.
- **(12/10/24) No Update**

**Elections 2025:**

- (11/12/24) - Reporting for the Nominating Committee. Curt B. provided an update on potential nominees for all open positions for discussion. Formal nominations will be made at the December meeting.
- (12/7/24) – A MailChimp Notice was emailed “Elections are Coming”, incl. a “Call for Candidates,” providing a deadline of Dec 20 for responses.

**UPDATE (12/10/24)**

- **Nominations were made by Jeff W. and seconded by Chris N. for the following directors and officers, pending the impact of any potential nominees submitted by membership by December 20:**
  - **For the 2-year term of office, beginning Jan 31, 2025:**

<b><u>Office</u></b>	<b><u>2-Yr Term Jan '25 to Jan '27</u></b>
Commodore	Tara Carew
Vice Commodore	Curt Bluefeld
Treasurer	Jeff Weeber
Secretary	Lena Cantera
Fleet Captain	Peter Urbani

- **For the 3-year term of Director, beginning Jan 31, 2025:**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Term</u></b>	
Art Gilbert, Chair	Jan 25 - Jan 28	Re-elect to add'l 3-Yr Term
Dave Cantera	Jan 25 - Jan 28	Re-elect to add'l 3-Yr Term
Jim Schmicker	Jan 24 - Jan 27	Serve remainder of term vacated by Cameron Walker

- **The Executive Committee voted to appoint Cameron Walker for the 2-year term of Member-at-Large, beginning on Jan 31, 2025.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Rules Change Procedure:**

- **Currently CCWBRA’s Rule Change Procedure is part of the bylaws, located in Article IX Section 2. Fred A. noted that the Rule Change Procedure is being kept out of the new Bylaws. There was consensus by the Executive Committee that the Rule Change Procedure should be a separate official policy document adopted by the Executive Committee, and it should be posted in the website’s Resources, and possibly be included in the Appendix section of the Racing Handbook.**
- **The Bylaws Committee and Rules Committee will review the document and propose a resolution for Executive Committee January meeting.**

### **Safety Committee:**

- **Chris N. has expressed his willingness to let someone else be the Safety Chair in the new year. As Tom Kerr has indicated that he is willing to step into the role, the Committee appointed Tom as the Safety Chair, beginning in 2025.**

### **Membership/Marketing Discussion:**

- **Lou Linden led a discussion on membership and marketing, sparked by a need to boost race attendance and racing memberships. Those attending this meeting shared many ideas and comments. And all of them expressed an interest in joining a brainstorming session, which is to be scheduled as a Zoom meeting on Tuesday Dec 17 at 5:00 pm.**

**Meeting adjourned: 8:55 pm**

### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

#### **Membership Committee**

(AKA Promotion/Marketing):

Lou Linden, Tara C, Curt B, Fred A,  
Lena C

#### **Rules Committee:**

Jim Schmicker, Racing Rules Chair  
Tara Carew, General Rules Director

#### **Appeals Committee:**

Capt. Peter Urbani, Chair

#### **Safety Committee:**

Chris Norman, Chair

#### **Design Committee:**

Keith Carew, Chair

#### **Ship Store:**

#### **Engine Committee:**

Charlie Iliff, Chair

Members: C. Bluefeld, S. Wearly, R. Bowler,  
Art Gompf

### **NEXT MEETING: Jan 7, 2025**

**Note: the Jan. meeting is on the first Tuesday.**

**MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month, 7:15pm (unless otherwise announced)